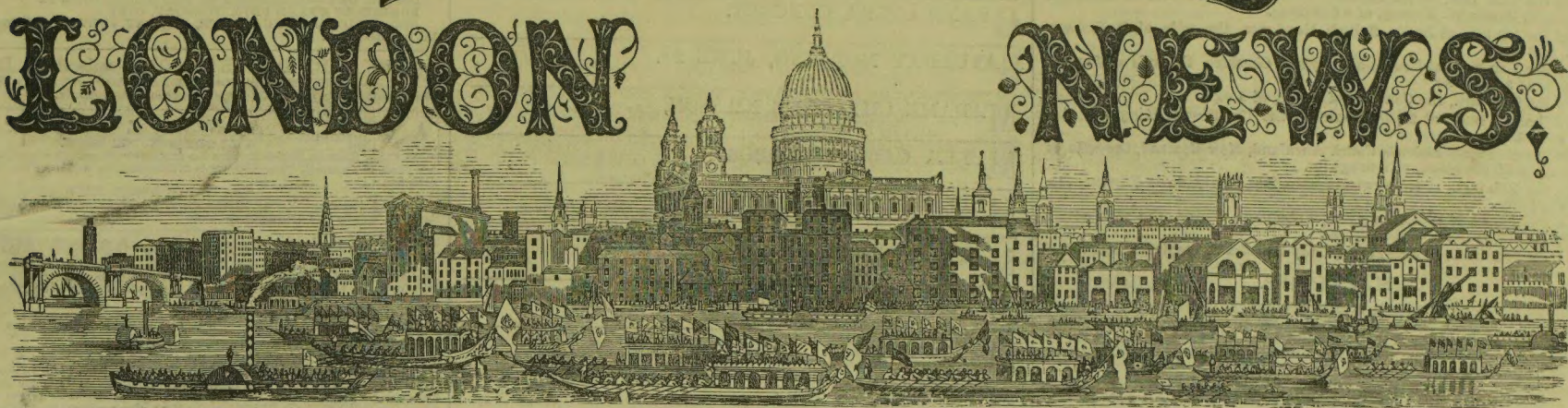


THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS



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No. 1764.—VOL. LXII.

SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1873.

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BY POST, 6½D.



HOSPITAL SUNDAY: THANKSGIVING OF THE CONVALESCENT.

THE SHAH OF PERSIA.

The Shah's Visit to England will be profusely illustrated in this Journal.

ENGRAVINGS NEXT WEEK.

The Ironclads Saluting the Shah on Approaching Dover.
Arrival of the Shah at Dover. Two Illustrations.
The Shah Landing at Dover.
Arrival of the Shah at Charing-cross Station.
The Shah Proceeding in State to Buckingham Palace.
The Queen Receiving the Shah at Windsor Castle.
Visit of the Shah to the Guildhall.
The Shah at Woolwich Arsenal.
The Shah at the Royal Italian Opera.

&c., &c., &c.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON, SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 1873.

Our readers, we feel sure, will hold us justified in turning aside this week from more exciting topics of political intelligence to call their attention to a brief and modest telegram which states an event fraught with deeper interest to the prospects of humanity than can be predicated of most questions of a political bearing which have come under recent notice. The public has been informed that a treaty has been concluded with the Sultan of Zanzibar, by which that Sovereign has bound himself to put an end to the slave trade within his dominions, and that the slave market of his capital has been closed. It will be recollected that Sir Bartle Frere's first negotiations with the Sultan, with a view to this result, were wholly fruitless. The Sultan did not see his way to comply with the demands of the English Government. No small part of his revenue was obtained from the traffic which England, in common with other European States, sought to abolish. It was not to be expected that he would be open to the force of humanitarian considerations. Under all the circumstances of the case, we can hardly be surprised that he was unable to appreciate the advantage held out to him, of a vast increase of legitimate commerce as one of the natural and inevitable consequences of his putting an end to the trade in human flesh and blood, which inflicts so much gratuitous misery on the inhabitants of the interior of Africa. The British Envoy, however, was far too experienced a diplomatist to accept a first failure as decisive of the fate of his mission. He left Zanzibar, and proceeded, fortunately, to Muscat, where he made a treaty with Synd Toorkee, and thence went on to Bombay to enlist the interests, if not the sympathies, of such of the native merchants in that part of India as had, until Sir Bartle Frere's visit, sedulously fostered the inhuman traffic. His success was such as appears, together with other causes, to have operated powerfully upon the mind of the Sultan of Zanzibar, and since his return home a treaty has been signed, with the result we have already indicated.

We are not disposed to regard the signature of a treaty, evidently extorted from the Sultan by moral pressure, as equivalent to a discontinuance in future of the East African slave trade. The public, we think, must be prepared to learn that the traffic, although prohibited, will be connived at, and will rather be diverted into comparatively hidden channels than effectually dried up at its sources. Still, unquestionably an important point has been gained. The trade will be pursued, if at all, under manifold discouragements. The profits of it will be rendered precarious. The spirit of enterprise which governs it will become weakened and comparatively broken. The way will be opened for legitimate commerce, and it is not improbable that, after an interval of some embarrassment and difficulty, the Sultan of Zanzibar will discover it to be to his interest to seek his revenues from other and steadier sources than those which he may derive from a contraband trade. Although, therefore, we are disinclined to shout before we are fairly out of the wood, we look upon Sir Bartle Frere's present success as a hopeful augury of a better state of things to come.

It is almost impossible to over-state the benefits likely to accrue to Africa from the event announced by the telegram to which we have referred. The slave trade, which had its focal centre in Zanzibar, has for a long time past been a devastating blight upon the interior of Eastern Africa—bad enough in its positive effects, still worse in those of a negative description. It did incalculable mischief, and it also prevented the development of immense good. The supply of the slave market of Zanzibar put in action all those cruel, wasteful, and atrocious agencies which seem to be inseparably associated with this intensely selfish traffic. Dr. Livingstone has set forth with irresistible power the numerous and various evils of which, in the course of his travels in search of the sources of the Nile, he was constantly coming across the traces. The inter-tribal wars originated and fomented by Arab slave-

dealers for the purpose of purchasing the captives of the victors, and the reckless inhumanity resorted to in driving gangs of innocent victims down to the coast, as well as in the crowded dhows by which they were conveyed to their ultimate destination, furnish stories of suffering and horror rivalling those which at the beginning of the century used to be detailed to the British public and Legislature by Clarkson and Wilberforce.

But there is something even more important to be noted. Where the slave trade is pursued legitimate commerce is unable to make its way. It was so on the Western Coast of Africa; it has been so more recently on the Eastern Coast; and it is so at this moment on certain groups of Islands in the South Pacific. The tribes of the interior of Africa are not naturally ferocious. Their wars with each other indicate the powerful action of factitious causes rather than the spontaneous inclinations or the traditional habit of the people themselves. Delivered from all apprehension of the slave-dealers, they are quite ready to engage in the regular pursuits of barter and trade. They possess rich resources. In ivory alone they would be able to supply the wants of Europe. Beyond the belt of low-lying country about the coast, their climate is not insalubrious, and no small extent of their soil is fertile. But whatever advantages they possess were neutralised and paralysed by this infamous trade in flesh and blood. A happier era, we believe, is dawning upon them—one the first glimpse of which will gladden the heart of Livingstone, the veteran philanthropist and explorer, far more than even the discovery of the veritable sources of the Nile.

We cannot take leave of this subject without paying our meed of grateful and admiring testimony to the Government of M. Thiers. In the outset of Sir Bartle Frere's negotiations with the Sultan of Zanzibar, the French representative encouraged this potentate to resist the demands made upon him by the British Envoy. The late President of the French Republic loyally resented this kind of sinister interference, and, with the utmost promptitude, sent out stringent instructions to French officials in that part of the world to tender their zealous co-operation in furtherance of the efforts of Sir Bartle Frere in this matter. To this circumstance, as much, perhaps, as to any other, may be attributed the fact that the expeditions of the kidnappers on the main land were arrested even before the treaty was signed, and that the slave trade on the eastern coast of Africa has been, for the present at least, scotched if not killed, without striking a blow or firing a shot in consummating the triumph. A little vigilance, perseveringly exercised, will probably now suffice for the extinction of the evil.

THE COURT.

The Queen, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold attended Divine service on Sunday last at Crathie church. The Rev. Dr. Taylor officiated. Her Majesty gave a ball on Thursday week to the tenantry, servants, and gillies upon the Balmoral, Abergeldie, and Birkhall estates. A spacious marquee was erected upon the lawn near Balmoral Castle. The Queen, with Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold and the ladies and gentlemen in waiting, was present at the dance. Her Majesty, before leaving Balmoral, made excursions to the Linn of Dee and other picturesque localities. Captain Maitland Kirwan, Lieutenant Cameron, and Lieutenant Carfrae, 78th Highlanders, dined at the castle, and were afterwards presented to the Queen. The Marquis of Ripon and the Rev. Dr. Taylor have dined with her Majesty.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice and Prince Leopold, left Balmoral on Tuesday at half-past one o'clock, and travelled in the usual special train by the customary route to Windsor, arriving at the castle shortly before nine o'clock. The suite in attendance consisted of the Hon. Mary Lascelles, the Hon. Frances Drummond, Mdlle. Noré, Colonel H. Ponsonby, Lord Charles Fitzroy, Mr. Sahl, Mr. Collins, and Dr. Marshall.

The Hon. Horatia Stopford has arrived at the castle. The Hon. Flora Macdonald has succeeded the Hon. Mary Lascelles as Maid of Honour in Waiting. Lord Methuen has arrived at the castle as Lord in Waiting. Viscount Bridport has succeeded Lord Charles Fitzroy as Equerry in Waiting to her Majesty.

The Queen has granted the dignity of Baron of the United Kingdom unto David Robertson, Esq., by the title of Baron Marjoribanks, of Ladykirk, in the county of Berwick.

A state ball will be given on Wednesday next at Buckingham Palace.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales returned to Marlborough House yesterday (Friday) week from Cowarth Park. On Sunday their Royal Highnesses, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, attended Divine service at St. Paul's Cathedral. On Monday the Prince and Princess went to Woolwich, to receive the Cesarewitch and the Cesarevna, the brother-in-law and sister of the Princess. Their Imperial Highnesses drove with the Prince and Princess to Marlborough House, where they will remain as the guests of their Royal Highnesses during their stay in London. On Tuesday the Prince presided at a meeting of the Council of his Royal Highness, held at Marlborough House. There were present Viscount Portman, the Earl of Leicester, Mr. George Lock, Q.C., Sir Thomas M. Bid-dulph, Sir William Knollys, and Sir William G. Anderson, who took the oath on his appointment as a member of the Council of his Royal Highness. Mr. Wilmshurst, the secretary, was in attendance. The Prince also presided, at Marlborough House, over a meeting of her Majesty's Commissioners for the Exhibition of 1881. The Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke of Teck were present.

THE CESAREWITCH AND THE CESAREVNA.

The Grand Duke Cesarewitch and the Grand Duchess Cesarevna, accompanied by their children, the Grand Dukes Nicholas and George, arrived at Woolwich, at one o'clock on Monday, on board the Russian Imperial yacht the Standard. The suite in attendance consisted of Princess Kourakine, Countess Apraxine, General Zinovief, General Stürler, Count Olsouvielf, and Dr. Hirsch. Upon the arrival of the Imperial yacht the Prince and Princess of Wales, who had previously

arrived at Woolwich, with the Earl of Kenmare and Lieutenant-Colonel Teesdale, who had been respectively appointed by the Queen and the Prince of Wales to be in attendance upon the Cesarewitch during his visit to this country, went on board and received their Imperial Highnesses. Viscount Sydney, as Lord Lieutenant of Kent, was present. A guard of honour of the Royal Artillery was in attendance upon the pier, and a Royal salute was fired. Their Imperial and Royal Highnesses were warmly greeted by some thousands of people congregated to witness the landing. The Cesarewitch and the Cesarevna, with their children, accompanied by the Prince and Princess of Wales, proceeded in Royal carriages to Marlborough House, escorted by a detachment of the 2nd Dragoon Guards. The Duke of Edinburgh, the Duchess of Cambridge, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, and the Duke and Duchess of Teck called upon their Imperial Highnesses at Marlborough House. In the evening the Cesarewitch and the Cesarevna, with the Prince and Princess of Wales, went to the Royal Italian Opera, Covent-garden. On Wednesday their Imperial Highnesses, accompanied by the Princess of Wales, visited Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), the Duchess of Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Teck, and the Duchess of Inverness. The Cesarewitch also visited the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of Cambridge, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, and Count Gleichen, and also the Shah immediately after his Majesty's arrival at Buckingham Palace. In the evening their Imperial Highnesses, with the Prince and Princess of Wales, Prince Arthur, and the Prince and Princess of Oldenburg, went to Her Majesty's Opera, Drury-lane. Their Imperial Highnesses have driven out daily.

The Duke of Edinburgh on Monday laid the first stone of the new buildings and school-room of Merchant Taylors' upon the site of the old Charterhouse School. On Tuesday his Royal Highness presided at the first public dinner in connection with the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum, of which the Queen is the patron, the festival being held at the London Tavern.

Princess Louise (Marchioness of Lorne), accompanied by the Marquis of Lorne, visited St. Clement's Church and schools, Lancaster-road West, Notting-hill, on Thursday week, and presented the special prizes which, by her Majesty's consent, are annually given in memory of the Prince Consort. Princess Louise has postponed the opening of the bazaar in aid of the North London Consumption Hospital from Tuesday, the 24th, to the following day, the 25th inst., on account of the review at Windsor in honour of the visit of the Shah of Persia.

Prince Arthur has appointed Wednesday, July 2, for the ceremony of the admission of his Royal Highness as a member of the Haberdashers' Company.

The Duchess of Cambridge has returned to her residence in the Ambassadors' Court, St. James's Palace, from Cambridge Cottage, Kew. Her Royal Highness went to the Prince of Wales's Theatre on Saturday last.

The Duke of Cambridge presented the prizes at the Royal Military Academy, Woolwich, on Tuesday. In the evening his Royal Highness had a dinner party at Gloucester House.

The Duke and Duchess of Teck returned to Kensington Palace on Saturday last from Frogmore.

The Prince and Princess of Oldenburg arrived in London on Sunday from the Continent.

The Empress Eugénie has left Chisclhurst for Switzerland.

Prince Napoleon Bonaparte arrived in London on Sunday from Paris.

HUDDERSFIELD STATUE OF PEEL.

An Engraving last week showed the design of Mr. Theed's colossal statue of the late Sir Robert Peel, which has been erected in the town of Huddersfield. We now give an illustration of the ceremony of unveiling this statue—an act performed by Lord Houghton, on Tuesday, the 2nd inst., in the presence of a large assemblage of the townspeople. In his speech upon the occasion, Lord Houghton referred to the commercial policy of the great statesman. He compared the statistics of our cotton, wool, and iron manufactures at the present time with what they were in 1842; some of the amounts being now triple the former sum, others five times as large, or more; while upwards of twenty-five millions sterling of customs and excise duties had been remitted, yet the revenue was more prosperous than ever. It was just twenty-three years since Sir Robert Peel died; and he well deserved to be kept in remembrance, for he had done more than any other Minister to increase the profits and wages of industry, and to augment the comforts of the labouring man's home and family. Every father or mother in that manufacturing town of Huddersfield should be prepared to tell their children, when they looked at the statue, what they owed to Sir Robert Peel.

This was Lord Houghton's way of putting the subject before them. The illustration is from a photograph by Mr. H. Lord.

The foundation-stone of the new schools for St. Alban's, Holborn, was laid, on Tuesday, by Lord Eliot.

A bowling tournament, at which the leading clubs in Scotland were represented, has been held this week at Glasgow.

The Isle of Man Legislature has sanctioned the proposed construction of a promenade pier at Ramsey, at a cost of £5000.

M. Deldevez succeeds the late M. George Haine as conductor of the orchestra of the Opéra at Paris, after having served as deputy chef twelve years.

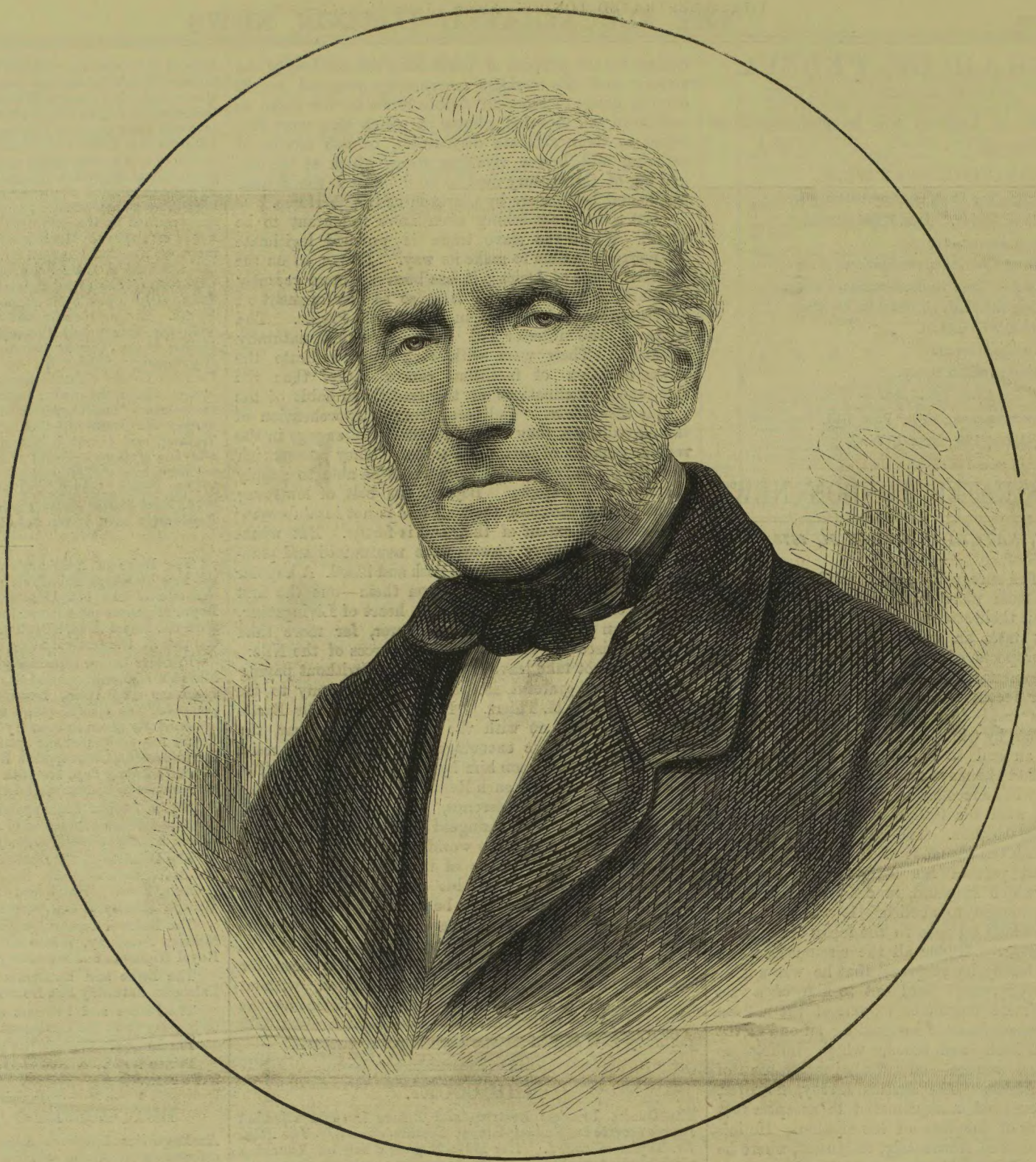
In London 1909 births and 1219 deaths were registered last week. After making due allowance for increase of population, the births were 287 and the deaths 182 below the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years.

The Liverpool memorial to the late Mr. Graves, M.P., is to consist of a marble statue to be placed in St. George's Hall, a bust to be presented to Mrs. Graves, and two Graves scholarships in connection with the Seamen's Orphan Institution.

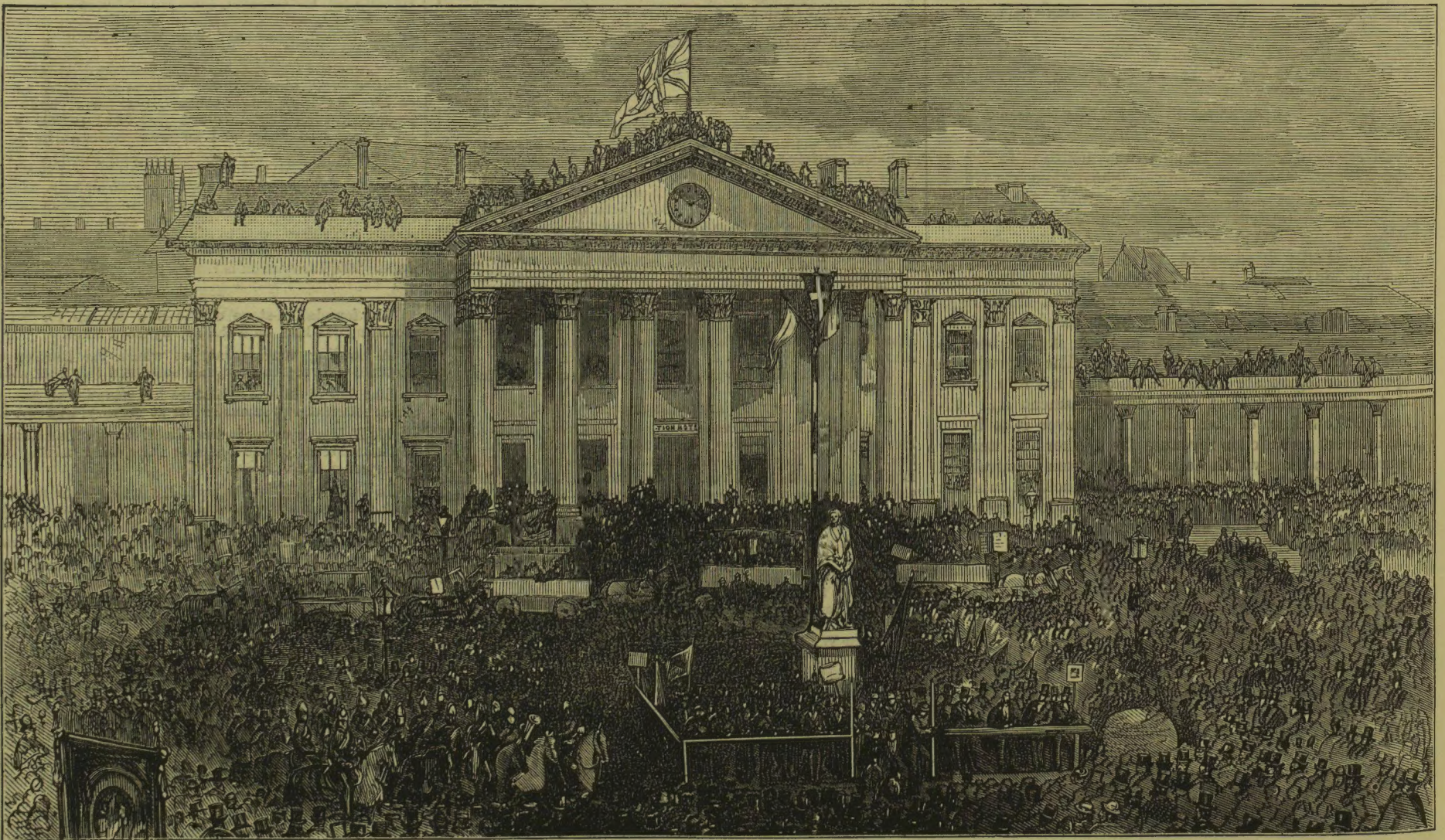
The Duke of Marlborough presided, on Wednesday, at the summer general meeting of the supporters of the Royal Alfred Merchant Seamen's Institution at Belvedere. He also unveiled busts of two gentlemen, Captain Maude and Captain M'Lean, who had promoted that valuable charity.

At the usual weekly meeting of the London School Board, on Wednesday, it was resolved, upon the recommendation of the finance committee, that from the 30th inst. all financial business of the board with reference to schools be managed directly from the head office.

A cabman was summoned by Lord Ocho Fitzgerald at Marlborough-street last Saturday for having neglected to deliver a ticket to his Lordship at the conclusion of a journey. It appeared that the defendant had also demanded more than his legal fare, and refused to drive Lord Ocho to a police station when remonstrated with. The cabman was fined 4s.



THE LATE ALESSANDRO MANZONI, ITALIAN POET AND NOVELIST.



LORD HOUGHTON UNVEILING THE STATUE OF SIR R. PEEL AT HUDDERSFIELD.



THE BURNING OF THE ALEXANDRA PALACE.

ARRIVAL OF THE SHAH.

His Imperial Majesty Nasr-ood-Deen, Shah of Persia, arrived in London on Wednesday evening, and is staying at Buckingham Palace as the guest of her Majesty Queen Victoria. Our Portrait and memoir of this Eastern Sovereign, with portraits of three of his sons, and of his Sadr Azim or Prime Minister, and with some illustrations of the chief towns of Persia, will be acceptable this week; and we shall provide, in the next and following weeks, the most ample illustrations of what is to take place in connection with his visit to Great Britain. It should have been mentioned, by the way, on another page, that our views of Teheran, Ispahan, Shiraz, and Tabreez, are lent by Mr. H. De Lacy O'Brien, from those prepared from his forthcoming volume, "Modern Persia, its Resources and Prospects," which is dedicated to the Shah. Mr. O'Brien has lived long in Persia, and his book is likely to contain much useful information. We shall review it when completed and published in the ordinary course.

The invitation graciously sent by our Queen was conveyed to the Shah at Brussels by a distinguished servant of her Majesty, Major-General Sir Henry Rawlinson, who had known the Shah in Persia, and the Shah's father before him. It was on Monday, soon after the Shah's arrival at Brussels, that Sir Henry called upon his Majesty, and was formally received, with Sir Arnold Kemball, Resident British Agent at Bagdad, Major Burne, and Captain Grey, the other members of this special mission. Sir Henry addressed the Shah in the Persian language, after presenting his diplomatic credentials to the Sadr Azim, and the Queen's letter to the Shah. He offered the usual compliments, congratulations, and assurances of welcome; but, referring to the last occasion of his seeing the Shah, on taking leave of him in Persia thirteen years ago, Sir Henry said that, from the personal friendship with which his Majesty then honoured him, it was the more agreeable to him that he was now charged by his Royal Mistress with this duty. In replying to Sir Henry, the Shah said he was much touched by the kindness of her Majesty. His tour in Europe was by no means undertaken for the sake of mere pleasure, but with a view to witness European civilisation; and the main object he had in setting out on this journey was to visit England.

Among the gentlemen who waited on his Majesty at Brussels was Mr. T. K. Lynch, the Persian Consul-General in this country, who resides at Birkenhead. The Shah remained quiet on Tuesday morning, but King Leopold II. took him a carriage drive through the streets and the park, showed him the church of St. Gudule, presented him to the Queen at the palace of Laeken, and entertained him at dinner, with the members of the English mission. He there met some diplomatic personages; among these was the Papal Nuncio, to whom the Shah remarked that he had that day been in a Christian church for the first time in his life. The Shah is reported to speak French very well.

Starting from the Belgian capital at five o'clock on Wednesday morning, at which early hour King Leopold took leave of him at the Brussels railway station, the Persian Monarch reached Ostend by a special train before half-past seven. He was accompanied, of course, by Sir H. Rawlinson and the other Englishmen, as well as by his own numerous Court and suite (a list of whom is given in another page). The Ostend railway station was decorated, and there was a guard of honour to receive him. The Persian Minister at the Court of Great Britain, Mahmoud Khan, with Mr. Ronald Thomson, Secretary of Legation, here met the Shah. In the port of Ostend lay three Admiralty despatch-boats of the British Government for the conveyance of his Majesty and those who belonged to him across the Channel. These were H.M.S. Vigilant, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral Sir Leopold M'Clellan; H.M.S. Lively, Commander E. H. Wilkinson; and H.M.S. Vixen, Staff-Commander Thompson. The Shah and Persian Princes, with Sir H. Rawlinson and General Simon, Aide-de-Camp to the King of the Belgians, went on board the Vigilant, which is a paddle-wheel steam-yacht of 800 tons burden. At a distance of several miles off the shore lay three British ships of war, that strange-looking monster, the new turret-ship Devastation, of 9500 tons; the Audacious and the Vanguard, each of 6000 tons and fourteen guns, two comparatively handsome ironclads. These were to serve as an escort from Ostend.

The weather was misty, but the sea was calm, when the flotilla started, at eight o'clock. At noon it came in sight of the detachment of the Channel Fleet which had been sent out to meet the Shah and convey him to Dover. There were eight of these mighty ships, not including the three named as having lain off Ostend. The eight were H.M.S. Agincourt, of 28 guns and 10,600 tons burden, the flagship of Rear-Admiral Hornby; H.M.S. Northumberland, H.M.S. Black Prince, and H.M.S. Achilles, of nearly equal armament and tonnage; H.M.S. Hercules, 14 guns; H.M.S. Sultan, 14 guns; H.M.S. Monarch, turret-ship, and H.M.S. Hector. The appearance of the squadron, drawn up in crescent form, when the Shah approached its position at one o'clock, must have given him a strong impression of our naval force. But he was, perhaps, not less struck by his first sight, at an earlier hour, of the Devastation, Vanguard, and Audacious, and by the tremendous salute of great guns which they fired to greet him when coming out from Ostend. The Vigilant, Lively, and Vixen hoisted the Persian flag, which displays a gold lion, sword, and sunrise upon a ground of red or white. This was again saluted by the whole squadron, with astonishing effects of sound and smoke, when the ships from Ostend met the ships from Dover. The weather at this time of the day was very fine.

The eleven ironclads, again united in one squadron under Admiral Hornby, now formed two lines, between which the Vigilant and the other two despatch-boats moved on towards Dover. A crowd of excursion-steamers and private yachts hung about them, and many thousands of spectators at sea, as well as on shore, enjoyed this noble spectacle. The crews of all the ships manned the yards aloft, while the marines paraded at their gangways. Coming near the white cliffs which are crowned by the old castle, the Vigilant passed rapidly forward, hailed with hearty sailors' cheering by each ship along the double line. She was met by the official steam-yacht Enchantress, with Mr. Goschen, First Lord of the Admiralty, flying the Persian flag in honour of the Shah. She rounded the Admiralty Pier at ten minutes past two o'clock. As the landing-stage was reached a military band struck up "God Save the Queen," and the garrison troops on the pier, under command of General Sir Alfred Horsford, presented arms. These consisted of the 3rd Buffs, the 33th Regiment and a battalion of the 9th, the 3rd Brigade of Royal Artillery, some Royal Marines and Royal Engineers, and the Kent Artillery Militia.

Two of Queen Victoria's sons were on the pier at Dover to give the Shah his first welcome to England. The Duke of Edinburgh wore the uniform belonging to his naval rank, Prince Arthur that of the Rifle Brigade, and each the Garter ribbon and star, with other stars and decorations. With their Royal Highnesses were Lord Sydney, in the uniform of a lord lieutenant, the ribbon and star of the Bath, and his Chamberlain's

key; Lord Granville, in the blue and red of his Cinque Port Wardenship; Admiral Sir Rodney Mundy, Admiral Lord Frederick Kerr, and other officers of the suites, of the Court, and the various services. The Shah, coming out of the deck saloon, showed himself on the quarter-deck of the Vigilant, amidst a group of Persian grandees, in dresses adorned with gold lace, green ribbons, and flashing stars. He wore a cloak, with a tall black fur cap, in front of which was his diamond aigrette; a pair of spectacles assisted his eyes. As the people cheered him he raised his hand to his cap once or twice, and then re-entered the deck saloon, where he changed his dress, while the boxes and packages were carried ashore. He now received the Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Arthur, who went on board the Vigilant, with Earl Granville and Lord Sydney, to bid him welcome.

As the Shah stepped on the red-carpeted gangway and gained the shore a Royal salute was fired by the castle and other batteries, to which the fleet responded. He entered, with the Princes, the saloon carriage on the short line of railway along the pier to the Lord Warden Hotel, received an address from the Mayor of Dover, and went into the hotel for luncheon. His Majesty now appeared in a blue military frock-coat, faced with rows of diamonds and large rubies; his belt and the scabbard of his scimitar were likewise bright with jewels, and so was his cap. It was a quarter to four when he left the hotel, accompanied by our Princes, and started by a special train of the South-Eastern Railway for London. We shall give some illustrations in our next week's Paper of all the chief incidents of his arrival, from the landing at Dover to his meeting with the Prince of Wales at Charing-cross station, about six o'clock, and getting to his quarters at Buckingham Palace. The Duke of Cambridge, Prince Christian, and the Duke of Teck, with the Marquis of Ailesbury, Master of the Horse, were at Charing-cross station, in company with the Prince of Wales, who was attended by the Marquis of Hamilton, Sir W. Knollys, and others. At Buckingham Palace his Majesty was received by Viscount Sydney, as Lord Chamberlain, and by Lord Poltimore, Lord Otho Fitzgerald, Lord Richard Grosvenor, the Duke of St. Albans, the Earl of Lucan, and other officers of the Queen's household. The Shah received a visit from the Russian Imperial Prince and Grand Duke (the Csesaritch) at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday evening.

On Thursday his Majesty received the Corps Diplomatique and her Majesty's Ministers at Buckingham Palace. In the evening he dined at Marlborough House with their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales and went to a ball given by the Duchess of Sutherland at Stafford House.

On Friday the Shah was received by the Queen in state at Windsor Castle. In the evening his Majesty was entertained by the Lord Mayor with a ball at Guildhall, which will be the subject of some of our illustrations next week.

This day (Saturday) his Majesty will examine the Arsenal and other objects of interest at Woolwich, and inspect the regiment of Royal Artillery. In the evening he will visit the Royal Italian Opera in state.

On Monday his Majesty will inspect Portsmouth Dockyard and the Channel Fleet. His Majesty will return to town, and be present at an evening entertainment at the International Exhibition and Royal Albert Hall. On Tuesday the Shah will be present, with the Queen, at a review of the troops in Windsor Great Park, and in the evening will dine with the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. On Wednesday his Majesty will pay a visit to the City. After inspecting the Bank of England, he will embark at the Tower, and, passing through the Pool to the West India Docks, will go to be entertained with a déjeuner given by the first Lord of the Admiralty at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich. A state ball will be held in the evening in honour of the Shah at Buckingham Palace. On Thursday and Friday his Majesty will visit Liverpool, Crewe, and Manchester, and will be the guest of the Duke of Sutherland at Trentham. He may perhaps go to Edinburgh and Glasgow.

On Saturday, the 28th inst., the Shah will return to Buckingham Palace, and will be present at a déjeuner given by their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales at Chiswick. On Monday, the 30th inst., the Shah will visit the Crystal Palace, and other arrangements are in contemplation for his Majesty if time will admit of them.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will, with one codicil, of the late Sir William Tite, K.C.B., M.P., was proved, on the 7th inst., by Dame Emily Tite, the relict, Robert Farre Dalrymple, and Francis James, Esqs., the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £400,000. The only legacy of public interest is one of £1000 to the Institute of British Architects, to be invested and the income "applied yearly in such manner as the president and council for the time being of the said society shall deem best calculated to promote the study in England of Italian architecture."

The will and codicil of Catherine Baroness Hartland, of Colville House, Ealing, were proved, on the 13th inst., by Captain William Atcherley Atcherley, the nephew, one of the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £35,000. After payment of some legacies, testatrix gives the residue of her property to her niece Jane Margaret Atcherley.

Letters of administration of the personal estate and effects of Mary Ann Dowager Viscountess Kenmure, who died on April 4, 1872, at Southsea, intestate, a widow, without child or parent, were granted at the district registry, Winchester, on the 26th ult., to James Wildey, the natural and lawful brother, and one of the next of kin.

The will of Major-General George Thomas Conolly Napier, C.B., was proved, on the 4th inst., by Major-General William Craig Emilius Napier, the brother, and George Rooper, the executors. The trusts of the will are solely in favour of testator's daughter, Mrs. Annetta Bell, and her children.

The will and codicil of John Garle, of Lubbock-road, Chislehurst, were proved on the 17th ult., by Mrs. Louisa Garle, the relict, George Smith, and Edward Vaughan Thompson, the executors, under £18,000.

The will of George Audus Beaumont Beecroft, Esq., of No. 4, Gloucester-terrace, Regent's Park, was proved, on the 12th inst., by the Rev. James Akroyd Beaumont and the Rev. Thomas George Beaumont, the uncles, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £80,000. The parties benefited by the will are testator's mother, Mrs. Mary Isabella Beecroft, his said two uncles, and their children.

A Society for the Promotion of Scientific Industry has been established. Its head-quarters are in Manchester, but its scope is national. Its object is the increase of the technical knowledge and skill of those engaged in the various industries, the improvement and advancement of manufactures and the industrial arts and sciences, and the general progress, extension, and well-being of industry and trade. Lord Derby is its president; Mr. Hugh Mason chairman of its council; and Mr. W. G. Larkins, its secretary.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, June 19.

The name of M. Ranc, the lately-elected deputy for Lyons and the former member of the Commune, is in everyone's mouth. He is the hero, or rather the victim, of the hour. It would seem that General Ladmirault, the Governor of Paris, having nothing particular to occupy his attention just now, has therefore time to turn his attention to old sores, and to rake up matters that perhaps had best been suffered to remain in oblivion. A letter of his addressed to M. Buffet, the President of the National Assembly, was read by that gentleman to the body over which he presides on Thursday last. In it the General, after expressing his opinion that equal justice is a necessity for all, states that M. Ranc is the only member of the Commune who has not shared the prosecution meted out to his colleagues, and therefore requests authority from the Assembly to take proceedings against him. By a large majority it was decided that a Committee should be appointed on the following Saturday to discuss the General's demand. On the different Bureaux assembling for this purpose, several speeches, of more or less importance, were delivered on both sides of the question, and finally a Committee of fifteen members was elected. This Committee met for the first time on Monday, and it was soon perceived that there was an overwhelming majority in favour of the proposed prosecution. A resolution was at once passed calling on M. Ranc to appear on the following day before this novel tribunal. Instead of putting in a personal appearance, however, the latter contented himself with forwarding a letter, in which he declines to admit the competence of the Committee, or even the authority of the Assembly itself, to decide the matter, and states that the mere question of his guilt or innocence has been settled by the military Courts before which he has appeared as a witness. The Committee, after the reading of this epistle, entered into a long discussion of the affair, and eventually resolved upon authorising the prosecution by a vote of fourteen to one. Their report to this effect was read to the Assembly yesterday; but the debate upon it has been adjourned till to-day. There is much discussion as to the advisability of the steps taken by the Committee. It is felt by most moderate men that it is a mistake to revive matters which it would have been much better to have suffered to remain at rest for ever, whilst a fresh complication is introduced by the fact of the Committee appointed to inquire into the circumstances of the Lyons election having decided upon the validity of M. Ranc's position as deputy—a decision confirmed on the presentation of their report to that effect on Saturday by an almost unanimous vote of the whole Assembly. Pending the final settlement of matters, M. Ranc is keeping himself carefully concealed—indeed, rumour says that he has left Paris for England.

M. Pascal, to whose pen the press circular which produced such a terrific outburst last week was due, has published a long letter intended to serve as an apology for his conduct. It is certainly a curious production, his principal defensive plea being that the Government were not actually to buy the support of the press, but merely to obtain it in return for the supplying of important information. Furthermore, he makes a singular confession of weakness on the part of the Conservatives by the assertion that the Radical journals are all under a carefully-organised control, and act with unanimity upon the slightest sign from the chiefs of their party. Speaking of press matters, it may be as well to mention a very absurd report that has been put in circulation here, to the effect that the correspondents of foreign papers are to be carefully warned of the necessity of writing nothing unfavourable to the present state of things. It is a canard of the fullest feather.

Of general news this week there is an absolute dearth. General Chanzy, who has announced his intention of resigning his seat in the Assembly, leaves for Algeria on Saturday; and it is said M. Rochefort will shortly be shipped for New Caledonia, the delay that has hitherto taken place in carrying out his sentence of transportation being due to the state of his health. Prince Napoleon is still here, but keeps remarkably close and quiet.

The financial prospects of the country do not seem any brighter. The deficit in the Budget retains its alarming proportions, and can, to all appearance, only be met by a loan or the imposition of fresh taxes. Some time must necessarily elapse before M. Magne can develop his schemes of finance; but, despite the great confidence in his ability, the prospect is not of the most encouraging nature.

SPAIN.

The Government has announced to the Cortes that the separation of Church and State will form a portion of their political programme. Senor Salmeron has been chosen as President of the Cortes by a large majority over Senor Figueras. On assuming the presidency, Senor Salmeron gave the Assembly sensible advice as to the necessity of putting an end to useless divisions and beginning in earnest the task of practical legislation. The majority of the Assembly have appointed a directing Committee, with Senor Castelar as president.

A battalion of Madrid riflemen have mutinied, and killed their commander. It is reported that General Novillas has defeated the column under Dorregaray, and that the Carlists lost 300 killed and wounded and 700 prisoners.

HOLLAND.

The First Chamber, on Monday, unanimously sanctioned the grant of 5½ million florins for the Acheen expedition. The Minister for Foreign Affairs stated that the Government had received no information, either officially or semi-officially, respecting any interference on the part of Turkey in the Acheenese question.

ITALY.

King Victor Emmanuel arrived at Turin on Tuesday. The Empress of Russia, with Princess Alexandrina and suite, have left Rome for Civita Vecchia and Genoa. King Victor Emmanuel, Prince Humbert, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Prefects and Mayor of Rome were at the railway station at their departure.

The Chamber of Deputies has passed the estimates for 1873. The expenditure proposed for the year is 1552 million lire.

The Senate has approved, with scarcely any opposition, the bill for the suppression of religious corporations in Rome; 63 senators voted for and 20 against its adoption.

Monday was the anniversary of the Pope's election to the Pontifical throne, which took place twenty-seven years ago. Many distinguished visitors have recently called at the Vatican to congratulate his Holiness. He received the College of Cardinals on Tuesday. The ex-Queen of Spain arrived in Rome on Wednesday, with her two daughters and a large suite. She was met at the railway station by two prelates, and then went to the Vatican, where she was received with much ceremony.

RUSSIA.

The Czar left Ems, on Tuesday, for Darmstadt, to be present at the festival in honour of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Grand Duke's accession.

Despatches from St. Petersburg state that, on May 20, the Russian vanguard occupied the town of Kungrad, on the Amu Daru, after a successful engagement with a small Khivan force. The Russian flotilla, which had ascended the river from the Aral Sea, was stopped at Kungrad by the shallowness of the stream. The troops were rapidly prosecuting their march towards the capital. Another telegram states that the Mangishlak detachment, commanded by Colonel Lomakin, effected a junction, on May 26, with the Orenburg detachment, commanded by General Verefkin. On the 27th the Russian forces took Khodja Ili by storm, and put the enemy to flight. There was a great engagement on June 1, which terminated in the capture of the fortified town of Mangit. General Kaufmann has crossed the Amoo Daria, thirty-five versts from Khiva.

GERMANY.

The Emperor William has resumed his ordinary receptions of the Imperial Chancellor since Tuesday. His Majesty has also again received the Prussian Prime Minister, Count von Roon, and other high officials. The Emperor and Empress have taken up their residence at the Babelsberg Castle.

The German Parliament passed on Wednesday the third reading of the bill for the introduction of the Imperial Constitution into Alsace-Lorraine from Jan. 1, 1874. An amendment was adopted omitting the clause which provided that persons who had declared in favour of French nationality, but had not emigrated, should be incompetent to vote.

The new treaty between Germany and Persia was sanctioned by the German Federal Council on Wednesday.

Frederick von Raumer, the great German historian, died on the 20th inst., at the advanced age of ninety-three.

CANADA.

An Ottawa despatch of Wednesday's date, through Reuter's agency, states that Judge Johnson has been appointed Governor of Nova Scotia.

The long-standing vacancies in the Dominion Cabinet have been filled by the appointment of Mr. Gibbs, of Ontario, as Postmaster-General; General Musson, as Minister of the Militia; and Mr. Campbell, of Nova Scotia, as President of the Council.

A Melbourne despatch, of Wednesday's date, says: "New Zealand is still quiet."

A cable telegram announces the outbreak of cholera at Cincinnati, Memphis, and Nashville. The mortality has been chiefly among the negroes.

The Sultan of Zanzibar has signed the treaty for the suppression of the slave trade, and the slave market at Zanzibar has been closed.

The *Gazette* announces that the Queen has appointed Mr. Henry Turner Irving to be Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Leeward Islands.

The next mails for Australia and New Zealand will be dispatched from London as follows:—via Southampton, on the morning of July 3; via Brindisi, on the evening of July 11.

In conformity with a special convention between the Governments of Germany, Austria, and Italy the practice of examination of travellers' luggage on frontier stations between the three States is henceforward to be discontinued.

At Darmstadt, on Tuesday, the twenty-fifth anniversary of the accession of the Grand Duke was celebrated with much display. Among the distinguished persons present were the Czar, the Crown Prince of Germany, the Archduke Louis Victor of Austria, and others.

The duplicate cable of the Eastern Telegraph Company, having been successfully laid between Land's End and Vigo, was opened on Tuesday for public use. Complimentary messages were exchanged between the Lord Mayor of London and the Alcalde of Vigo.

An address which has been presented to the Khedive, praying for the preservation of the monuments in Egypt, alleges that recently three travellers were observed to mount on the head of the Great Sphinx, and deliberately chisel off a large piece from one of the ears.

The Khedive has contracted with an Alexandria banking house a loan of £30,000,000 sterling, to extinguish the Egyptian floating debt. The new firman granted to the Khedive by his suzerain, the Sultan, confers on him greater freedom of action than he before possessed. The relations between the two rulers seem to be just now very pleasant.

The Admiralty Court at Cadiz has condemned the captain of the *Murillo* to twelve months' suspension of certificate for having been in collision with an unknown ship and rendered no assistance. At the same time, apparently unable to find that the unknown ship was the *Northfleet*, it has not condemned the *Murillo*, and has ordered the crew to be set at liberty.

Some time ago competition was invited for designs for a bridge over the Neva at St. Petersburg. Eighteen designs were sent in, and from these three have now been selected for premiums, which have been awarded by the commissioner as follows:—The first premium, 6000 roubles, to Messrs. Whitaker and Perret, Abingdon-street, Westminster; the second premium, 3000 roubles, to "R. M. Ordish" and "Max Am Ende;" and the third premium, 1500 roubles, to "B. S.," a Russian.

The comprehensive concession accorded by the Shah of Persia to Baron Julius de Reuter was issued at Teheran on July 25, 1872, the conditions imposed in it upon the concessionaire being ratified by him in London on Aug. 24 of the same year. The *Times*' correspondent at Berlin says that this remarkable document may be briefly described as conferring an absolute right to supply the means of locomotion, an almost absolute right to work mines, and a right of preference to the production and manufacture of everything usually provided by commercial companies. To ensure success, the resources of the country are placed at the disposal of the concessionaire in the most liberal spirit.

At a meeting of the Parliamentary Committee of the National Education Union a general approval of the Elementary Education Act Amendment Bill has been expressed.

The Board of Trade has determined to withdraw the licence under which a Manchester agency called the Art-Union of Great Britain has been carried on for about thirteen years.

The thirteenth annual prize meeting of the City of Edinburgh and Mid-Lothian Rifle Association has been held this week at the Blackford Hill ranges, Morningside.

The Royal Counties (Hants and Berks) Agricultural Society's show opened at Southampton on Tuesday, and continued on view till Friday evening. The Prince of Wales sent a shearing Southdown ram, aged sixteen months, a cross between his own stocks and Lord Walsingham's, and a pen of five shearing ewes, each lot gaining the first prize of £10. There were 135 entries of sheep, 83 of horses, 125 of cattle (including Channel Islands stock), and 50 of pigs.

THE CHURCH.

The Lord Chancellor laid the foundation-stone of the new church (All Saints') at Alton, in Hampshire, on Wednesday.

The ancient parish church of Alberbury, Salop, which was re-seated and otherwise restored about a year ago, has been presented by Lady Charlotte Lyster, Rowton Castle, with a massive pulpit, executed by Bowdler, of Shrewsbury.

The New Testament Company of Revisers assembled on Tuesday, in the Jerusalem Chamber, for their thirty-first session. The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol presided. The company proceeded with the revision of the fourteenth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles.

The Bishop of Lincoln opened a beautiful school chapel, of which Mr. H. Townsend was the architect, on Tuesday, in the agricultural parish of North Kelsey, Lincolnshire. The building includes a residence for the teacher, and a chancel, exquisitely proportioned, which is to be shut off on week days.

The annual festival of the church choirs of the Rochester district was held last week in the cathedral. Twenty-one choirs, consisting of between 500 and 600 voices, took part in the festival, which was held in the nave of the cathedral, as the choir is now in course of restoration. There was a large congregation.

The sixty-second annual meeting of the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church was held at Willis's Rooms on Tuesday, the Archbishop of Canterbury presiding. The speakers, in addition to the most rev. prelate, included Earl Beauchamp, the Bishops of Winchester and Hereford, and Canon Gregory. The income this year is reported £4000 in excess of last year's.

A stained-glass window in memory of the officers and men who perished through the foundering of H.M.S. *Captain*, in September, 1870, designed and executed by Messrs. Clayton and Bell, of Regent-street, has been fixed in the north transept of Westminster Abbey. A brass plate will shortly be laid in front of the window. Two other memorial brasses, recording the names of all who were drowned on the occasion, will also be placed in St. Paul's Cathedral.

At a public meeting at Hitchin on Monday in support of the Herts diocesan board of education, the Marquis of Salisbury and the Bishop of Peterborough warmly advocated the cause of religious instruction. Alluding to the necessity for maintaining religious instruction in public schools, the noble Lord defined it as a central position which it should be our object to preserve from the efforts of those to whom such instruction is detestable.

Last week the first stone of a handsome new church, which is to be erected by private munificence, was laid at Walthamstow. The religious ceremony was conducted by the Bishop of Rochester, the Rev. T. Parry (Vicar of Walthamstow), and the Rev. T. H. G. Robinson, Vicar of St. James's, of which the new building is to be a chapel-of-ease. The church is intended more particularly as a memorial of the late Mr. James Foster, of Mark House-lane; and his nephews, Mr. Knowles and Mr. Richard Foster, have also undertaken to endow the benefice of St. James with £100 a year, to which the Ecclesiastical Commissioners will add £50. The new church will be built from the designs of Mr. Francis T. Dollman. Messrs. Knowles and Foster have resolved to erect a parsonage house near the new church. A member of the family has also promised a service of plate for the holy communion.

At the monthly general meeting of the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge, in addition to several small grants for church and school building in the colonies, and numerous grants of books at home and abroad, the following large money grants were made—viz., £5000 to meet £5500 for the permanent endowment of the Church in Nassau, and for the maintenance of its future Bishops; also two sums of £500 each to meet £4500 for the permanent endowment of the two new sees of Athabasca and Moosonee: these sees, together with that of the Saskatchewan (to which the Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge last month voted £1000 to meet £9000 to be raised elsewhere), are in process of formation out of the hitherto enormous diocese of Rupert's Land. The almost boundless field for emigration which is being opened by the Canadian Pacific Railway, which passes through the fertile valley of the Saskatchewan, renders it of vast importance that the machinery of the Church should be prepared in anticipation of the tide of emigrants which has already begun to set that way.

The Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing of Churches and Chapels held its usual monthly meeting (the last but one for the session), at the society's house, 7, Whitehall, on Monday last—the Bishop of Winchester in the chair. Grants of money were made in aid of the following objects, viz.:—Building new churches at South Easton All Saints', near Middlesbrough, and Walsall St. George. Rebuilding the churches at Broughton-in-Furness, Lancashire; Bourton-on-the-Water, Gloucester; and Eltham (parish church), Kent. Enlarging or otherwise increasing the accommodation in the churches at Ashmore, near Shaftesbury; Barton St. David, Somerset; Capel-le-Ferne, near Folkestone; Healing, near Ulceby; Llandyssul, Cardigan; Michel Troy, near Monmouth; Paneg, near Pontypool; Plumstead, Norfolk; and Redlingfield, near Eye, Suffolk. Under urgent circumstances, the grants formerly made towards building St. Mark's Church, Walworth, Surrey; towards enlarging and restoring the Priory church at Dunstable, Beds; and towards re-seating the churches at Botus Fleming, near Hatt, Cornwall, and Eynsford, near Dartford, Kent, were each increased. Grants were also made from the school-church and mission-house fund towards building, &c., school or mission churches at Acol, near Margate; Fishponds, near Bristol; Goose-green, in the parish of Pemberton, Lancashire; Wardlow, in the parish of Tideswell, Derbyshire; and Woodcock's Well, in the parish of Odd Rode, Cheshire. It is a matter for serious regret that, whilst the society has voted in grants £4640 during the past three months, the receipts from all sources have been but £465. The committee, therefore, earnestly hope that additional funds will be speedily supplied.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

OXFORD.

Commemoration Day was celebrated on Wednesday with the usual ceremonies, honorary degrees being conferred on Professors Tyndall and Munro, and Mr. Lowell, the author of "The Biglow Papers."

Several Class Lists are unavoidably deferred.

The electors to the Hebrew Scholarships have elected the Rev. George W. Collins, B.A., Keble, to the Kennicott Scholarship; but have made no election on the Pusey and Ellerton Foundation. There were seven candidates.

CAMBRIDGE.

Mr. B. G. F. Molesworth and Mr. J. D. Bouchier have been elected to the two scholarships open to all undergraduate members of King's.

The open scholarship election at Pembroke College was made known on Saturday, as under:—Scholarship of £50, Lee, private tuition; of £60, Wilson, Felstead Grammar School; of 40, Ohm, Manchester Grammar School; of £20, Morris, Wellington College. At Magdalene College the prizemen are:—First year, Whitehead; second year, Williams; third year, Simmons and Smith. At Downing College the prizemen are:—Mathematical: C. S. Crosby (1st) and J. G. Hooton (2nd) of the first year; W. B. Hurry, of the second year. Classical: E. H. Peach, second year; and F. G. Hughes, third year. Law: J. E. C. Munro, first year; C. S. Kenny, second year.

Dr. William Stevenson, *emeritus* Professor of Divinity and Church History, died recently in Edinburgh.

The following have been elected scholars in this year's competition at Rugby School:—H. F. Wilson, T. A. Wise, L. F. Potts, and G. Wray. Speech Day is fixed for the 25th inst.

The Haileybury College scholarships are adjudged as follows:—Classical side: 1. E. Innes; 2. E. A. Armstrong. Honourably mentioned—W. Jackson. Modern side—C. E. Callwell.

The annual Speech Day at Wellington College took place on Wednesday—the anniversary of the Battle of Waterloo. On this occasion additional interest was lent to the proceedings from the fact that this was the last occasion on which the present Head Master, the Rev. Dr. Benson, would preside over the college, he having accepted a canonry in Winchester Cathedral.

The Marshall Scholarship, open to all natives of Southwark, has been gained by W. J. Clarke, of St. Olave's Grammar School, making three exhibitions held by this school out of four, value £50 per annum for four years.

Herbert Millington, M.A., at present Second Master of Leamington College, has been appointed Head Master of Bromsgrove Grammar School, in the place of the Rev. G. J. Blore, who has been elected to the head mastership of King's School, Canterbury.

The Bishop of London presided, on Monday, at the distribution of prizes to the successful pupils at the North London Collegiate School, the Head Master of which is the Rev. Dr. Williams. He remarked that one of the boys, taught entirely in the school, had obtained what was called the Oxford blue ribbon—a scholarship at Balliol; and that boy was likely to run a very distinguished career at Oxford. He urged them to remember that what God required of them was not success, but duty. The prizes to the successful pupils at the North London Collegiate School for Girls were on Tuesday distributed by Princess Mary, Duchess of Teck. The ceremony took place at Exeter Hall. A most favourable report of the school's progress was read, and the Princess bestowed 120 prizes, of books, on pupils of the upper school, and 68 on pupils of the lower school.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The committee of the London Female Penitentiary, Pentonville-road, has received £1000 from "H. L. T."

The *City Press* states that the Sheriffs of London and Middlesex have invited her Majesty's Judges to a banquet at Freemasons' Tavern on the 27th inst.

It has been announced by the chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works that £40,000 more will be required to completely free the Thames bridges from tolls.

The afternoon receptions of the Lady Mayoress will, in consequence of the visit of the Shah of Persia, be discontinued until July 8.

There has been an exhibition of sporting and other dogs at the Crystal Palace this week. There was a very large number of entries, and a considerable attendance of visitors.

The Duke of Cambridge has consented to inspect the London Rifle Brigade, of which he is honorary Colonel, to-day (Saturday) in Hyde Park; and on the same day Prince Edward of Saxe Weimar will inspect the 2nd City of London Rifles on the Horse Guards' Parade-ground.

At the annual meeting of the Palestine Exploration Fund, which was held on Tuesday, the Archbishop of York and the Dean of Westminster earnestly spoke of the importance of continuing the work of research which has been carried on under the auspices of this organisation.

Last Saturday evening the Lord Mayor, in his capacity as Master of the Stationers' Company, gave a banquet in the company's hall. The Archbishops of Canterbury and York, Lord Houghton, Mr. Crawford, M.P., and Mr. Serjeant Parry were amongst the speakers.

Mr. Wilkinson, the manager of the Crystal Palace, announces that the directors of the Alexandra Palace, having accepted the offer made by the directors of the Crystal Palace Company to set apart a day for the benefit of the sufferers at the late fire, Monday next has been appointed for that purpose.

The annual dinner of the patrons and friends of the German Society of Benevolence—instituted in 1817 for the aid of distressed Germans in London—took place on Monday evening, at Willis's Rooms, under the chairmanship of Mr. Alfred de Rothschild. A list of subscriptions, announced during the evening, amounted to £425.

Lord Carnarvon presided, on Tuesday, over a conference at the Albert Hall, with a view of promoting improvements in the silk manufacture. A resolution was passed recognising the value of such discussions in connection with the series of annual international exhibitions which were inaugurated at South Kensington two years ago.

The total number of paupers in the metropolitan district last week was 101,890, of whom 33,816 were in workhouses and 68,074 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding weeks in the years 1872, 1871, and 1870, respectively, these figures show a decrease of 4555, 23,355, and 30,161. The number of vagrants relieved was 773, of whom 537 were men, 193 women, and 43 children under sixteen.

The Royal Albert Orphan Asylum has manifestly benefited by having the Duke of Edinburgh for chairman at its first public dinner. His Royal Highness delivered a convincing appeal for the institution, instancing as a proof of its good management that the cost of the children's maintenance was only £16 12s. 9d. per head per annum. The subscriptions collected amounted to £3168. There are now 200 children in the asylum.

The Drapers' Company has voted the following donations:—500 gs. to the fund for the enlargement of the London Hospital; 200 gs. to the fund for the restoration of St. Alban's Abbey; 100 gs. to the Sunday Hospital Fund; 50 gs. to the Training Hospital, Tottenham-green; and 20 gs. to the Institution for Nursing Sisters, Devonshire-square. The Grocers' Company has presented £50 (through Mr. Charles E. Sparrow) to the Royal Academy of Music.





"DRIFTING AWAY," BY H. H. CAUTY.
IN THE EXHIBITION OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

SKETCHES IN PARLIAMENT.

As in the matter of holidays, so in the matter of sight-seeing, our legislators are decidedly boyish. If there is to be a show, it is inevitable that half a dozen representatives of the general feeling of the House should come forward and demand of the Government special accommodation, special privileges, and entire "franking" of legislators to witness the spectacle, whatever it may be. Of course, as all the inhabitants of this practical country have gone wild about the visit of the Shah of Persia, gentlemen of the Commons would have ceased to be representative if they had not partaken of the prevailing furore. Accordingly, many interpellations have been made to the War Department and the Admiralty; and it was pretty plainly intimated that both Chambers expected to be conveyed and fed on such days as reviews, military or naval, were to take place, at the cost of the State. The responses from the two departments were characteristic. Keeping up that half-haughty but certainly curt manner which he has for some time adopted when answering questions, Mr. Cardwell announced that, in regard to the review of troops at Windsor, he had sent a certain number of tickets of privilege to the Speaker, and thither members might make a rush for them; and it might have been conceived that he would have liked to add that he would not be bothered any more in the matter, and that he would, if he had had his own way, have thrown the cards on the floor of the House, and let members scramble for them physically. The dealing of Mr. Goschen with the subject was very different; he seemed embarrassed and hesitating in carrying out a principle which he distinctly laid down, that he could not be responsible for an outlay of eight or ten thousand pounds of public money in providing special trains, special steamers, and special luncheons, at a cost of £400 in each ship, in order that peers and members of Parliament might see all that they wanted to see without personal expense, as happened when the Sultan was in this country. In the first instance the First Lord of the Admiralty, in faltering accents, said that all which he could concede was permission for any member that chose to go on board any ship of the squadron which was to escort and be inspected by the Shah; while as to luncheon, that was in supposition. Perhaps he received private remonstrance, for subsequently he announced that he would provide two of Her Majesty's steam-ships for the use of the Legislature, individuals of which must find their way on board as they could; and he added, with the utmost significance, that "arrangements" for refreshment would be exceedingly "simple," which might mean a refectory composed of the ordinary ships' allowance. Whether these arrangements were satisfactory is perhaps doubtful, and the refusal of the House of Commons to pay the most special compliment in their power—namely, to adjourn at the time when the Shah was expected to arrive in London—may have been intended as a mark of disapprobation at their not being allowed to appear in the Miscellaneous Estimates next year as accountants for ten thousand pounds, the charge for their naval excursions.

It is very seldom that a bill, while going through the process of moulding in Committee, presents so many features of debate as the first of the Government Rating Bills. The prime feature is the extraordinary inadaptability, to use the mildest term that can be invented, of the Government officials who have charge of it to its adequate carriage. It was not very long before the country gentlemen and the lawyers of the Opposition discovered that, while they knew all about rating and its incidents, the knowledge of the President of the Local Government Board of principles and details was not merely primary, but infantine; while, as to the law officers of the Crown, the simplicity of the one and the burly effrontery of the other are ineffable. It has thus come about that the Opposition has been laying traps for the Government, into which the conductors of the measure were sure to fall, amidst the laughter and cheers of the country gentlemen. It was amusing to witness how Mr. Stansfeld and the Attorney-General endeavoured, by honeyed phrases and silvery elocution, accompanied by agonising smiles, to slither over their mistakes and to cover their inaptitude for their work, while the Solicitor-General, with a certain rough frankness and a touch of self-amusement, avowed his ignorance, and was consequently better received by the House than his compeers. The confusion of mind and of face which prevailed on the Treasury Bench when it was sought to make the conductors of the bill understand what "underwood" happened to be was remarkable; and perhaps it would have been more judicious for them to have imitated the example of the Solicitor-General when he was asked to explain what "sporting" meant, and avowed "that they did not know." The proceedings, as may be supposed, were for long chaotic, the contributions of the Chairman of Committees to the confusion worse confounded being innumerable and constant. Once, when Mr. Dodson came in, and speaking with the authority which belongs to him on a point of form, the present nebulous Chairman absolutely had the temerity to rule the other way; and when the dicta of Speakers and other Chairmen of Committees were brought to bear upon him he had to shuffle out of his difficulty by saying that he did not dispute the rule, but that he thought it would be convenient to violate it on this particular occasion.

Twice by the intervention of Mr. Bouverie has the Government been rescued from a very critical danger; for it was a general belief that, in the matter of the Zanzibar mail contract, they would have been beaten, on a division, upon the question of its approval. By interposing matters of form, both of which were connected with laches on the part of Mr. Lowe in not complying with the standing orders of the House, Mr. Bouverie prevented the debate going on; and, besides, he came in a third time with a proposition for referring the whole subject to a Select Committee. In the first two instances it would seem that Mr. Bouverie acted not as the "candid," but the real, friend of the Government; but it is just a question whether in his third proposal he had not a lurking intention of instituting a more crucial proceeding in the matter of the contract, and one which would show up Mr. Lowe more effectually than could be done in any debate. It may be only a coincidence, but ever since the arising of the subject of the Zanzibar contract Mr. Lowe has suffered a manner-change. No longer curt, snappish, and contemptuous, he is all courtesy and conciliation in demeanour, and it would seem in action too; for, according to Mr. Otway, he has been effusive in his compliance with a certain body called Civil Service Writers, who have a pile of grievances; has granted them all they have asked, and intimated to them that, if they can invent any more injuries, they have only to come to him and he will compensate them. Possibly, if taken in this mood, the Admiralty might get £10,000 from him for franking members to the naval review; and, in the critical position in which he stands, it might not have been bad tactique to have had this boon asked and granted, for the effect might have been to soften the judgment and the feelings of legislators with regard to him, particularly if their decision could have been taken just after a luncheon which was not "simple," but epicurean.

PARLIAMENTARY SUMMARY.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On the 13th inst. the Jurics (Ireland) Bill, the Registration (Ireland) Bill, and the Crown Lands Bill were read the third time and passed; the County Authorities Loans Bill and the Game Birds (Ireland) Bill were passed through Committee; and some other bills were advanced a stage.

The Royal assent was given by commission, on Monday, to several bills; the case of Mr. Leonard Edmunds was discussed, without any result; some minor bills were advanced a stage; and the subject of the extension of the powers for hearing appeals was considered.

The principal matter on Tuesday was the subject of patronage in the Church of Scotland; but a motion by the Earl of Airlie urging a change was not pressed.

On Thursday, the Earl of Camperdown, in reference to the Review at Spithead, for the general information of the House, stated that it was understood that the Shah would leave London by train at 8.30 a.m., and arrive at Portsmouth at 10.30 a.m. The Simoon troop-ship would leave the harbour at 9.30, and he believed arrangements had been made for a special train to reach Portsmouth before it started. The Vagrants' Law Amendment and the Fairs Bills were severally read the third time and passed. The Thames Embankment (Land), the Grand Jury Presentments (Ireland), the Elementary Education Provisional Orders Confirmation (Nos. 4, 5, and 6) Bills were each read the second time. The Local Government Provisional Orders (Nos. 2, 3 and 4) Bills and the Agricultural Children's Bill passed through Committee.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

At the morning sitting, on the 13th inst., Mr. Goschen informed several members that it was not intended to make special arrangements for the accommodation of members of Parliament on the occasion of the naval review at Spithead. The House was occupied during the remainder of the morning sitting with a discussion in Committee on the Rating (Liability and Value) Bill. By one amendment the provisions of the bill relating to the rating of Government property were extended to Scotland and Ireland. After an adjournment from seven to nine, Mr. M'Arthur moved a resolution in favour of Great Britain annexing or assuming the protectorate of the Fiji islands. In opposing the motion, Mr. Gladstone said it was a remarkable fact that nothing appealed so much to the feelings of a section of that House as a proposal for the annexation of territory, while no persons were more ready to denounce similar proposals by foreign nations. The motion was rejected by 85 votes against 50. Mr. Whalley was the author of a curious scene. In moving for returns on behalf of the defendant in the Tichborne case, he was repeatedly called to order by the Speaker; and at the last appeal he asked Mr. Bruce to extend to the defendant the same measure of justice as had been extended to murderers, traitors, Fenians, and other criminals of even a deeper dye than the defendant was alleged to be. In the universal merriment, Mr. Whalley's offence against the rules was forgotten.

The order for the adjourned debate on the Zanzibar mail contract was, on Monday, discharged on a point of form, to be renewed on an early day; and the Rating (Liability and Value) Bill was resumed in Committee.

In the morning sitting of Tuesday the third clause of the Rating Bill was passed. On clause 4, which subjected Sunday and ragged schools to rates, the Government acquiesced in the proposal of Mr. C. Reed, backed as it was by the general feeling of the House, to continue the present exemption under the Act of 1869. Progress was then reported, and the Law Agents (Scotland) Bill was read the third time and passed. At the evening sitting Mr. Goldney directed attention to the Weights and Measures Acts, and moved a resolution condemnatory of the employment of superintendents of police and police-constables as inspectors of weights and measures under those Acts. After some observations Mr. Goldney accepted the assurance of Mr. Peel (who said that the Board of Trade was desirous of carrying out his recommendations) and withdrew his motion. At the instance of Sir R. Anstruther, a motion identical with that in the Lords on the subject of patronage in the Church of Scotland was propounded and discussed. A Select Committee was appointed to inquire whether writers in the civil service appointed before August, 1871, had suffered any wrong by the cessation of the system of a progressive rate of payment.

At Wednesday's brief sitting Mr. Fawcett again moved the second reading of his Parliamentary Election Expenses Bill, which proposes to transfer the necessary and legitimate expenses of Parliamentary elections from the candidates to the localities in the case of all candidates who poll one fifth or upwards of the total number of persons voting. The latter proviso, Mr. Fawcett explained, was intended to prevent fictitious candidatures. Mr. H. James opposed the bill, on the ground that it provided only for the official expenses of Parliamentary elections; and he asserted that at the last general election the official expenses only amounted to £90,000, out of a total of £1,500,000. He also contended that the measure would increase the cost of elections, and expressed an opinion that working men were not desirous of facilitating the entrance into Parliament of members belonging to their own class. While acknowledging that the principle of Mr. Fawcett's bill appeared to him to be sound and just, Mr. Bruce reminded the House that the Government was under a pledge not to promote any measure that would add to the present incidence of local taxation. On a division, the bill was thrown out by 205 to 91. Mr. Fordyce's bill for the improvement of agricultural labourers' cottages in Scotland, and for the securing of compensation to tenants for the erection of such cottages, as well as for other permanent improvements, was also brought on for the second reading, but was talked out. The Indian Railways Registration Bill was read the third time and passed.

On Thursday a new writ was ordered to issue for Bath to elect a member in the room of Earl Cadogan, who had been called to the House of Peers. In reply to Mr. Whalley, the Chancellor of the Exchequer said the costs incurred by anything that had been done by the Lord Chief Justice in the Tichborne case were already provided for under the head of "law charges" by the vote of the House. In answer to Sir H. Hoare, Mr. Ayrton said that the Royal Commissioners of 1851 had absolute discretion to buy and sell land. Sir H. Hoare gave notice that he should take the opinion of the House upon this subject. The Local Rating Bill was again considered in Committee, and occupied their attention almost the whole of the remainder of the night.

Telegrams from Trebizonde report that serious disturbances had broken out between "the orthodox Armenians and the Dissenters" in that town. The Armenian Bishop was maltreated, and order was restored with difficulty by the Turkish Governor. Disturbances arising out of the antagonism of religious sects are also reported from Croatia. Several families of Christians had crossed into Austrian territory in order to escape from Mohammedan persecution.

MUSIC.

ROYAL ITALIAN OPERA.

Another character has been added to the already extensive repertoire of Madame Patti by her performance, for the first time in England, as Elvira, in "Ernani." This comparatively early work of Verdi was revived on Monday last, after having been unheard in this country for many years. The book is founded on Victor Hugo's play, "Hernani;" and the opera was originally produced at Venice, in 1844, having followed "I Lombardi" and preceded "Rigoletto," "Il Trovatore," "La Traviata," and "Un Ballo in Maschera," the operas by which Verdi has chiefly acquired his present reputation in this country. Yet "Ernani" contains some music fully equal to anything since produced by him, and is, perhaps, on the whole, more thoroughly characteristic of the composer than many of his later efforts, in which he has striven at styles that are beyond his reach.

Madame Patti's performance was throughout of superlative excellence. The splendour of her voice in quality and compass, her brilliant execution, and finished style were displayed with immense effect in the cavatina, "Ernani, involami;" and her fine declamation and earnest passion were conspicuous in the concluding trio ("Solingo errante misero") with Don Silva and Ernani. In the last-named character Signor Mongini sang with great effect in several instances, particularly in his first cavatina, "Come rugiada," and in the duettino with Elvira. Signor Graziani was the Don Carlos, in the music of which part the voice and style of the singer were heard to the best advantage. The aria "Lo vedremo" was greatly applauded, and the following solo, "Vieni meco," still more so. Signor Bagagiolo's resonant bass voice gave impressive effect to the music of Don Silva, both in the solo "Infelice," and in various concerted pieces. The cast was completed by Madame Anese and Signori Rossi and Raguer in subordinate characters. As in most previous performances, the highly-dramatic movement, "Oh, sommo Carlo!" in the third finale, produced a strong impression.

On Tuesday evening "Les Huguenots" was given, for the first time this season, and with Mdle. d'Angeri's first performance of the character of Valentina. This young lady, it will be remembered, made her debut here on the first night of the season, as Selika, in "L'Africaine." In the new assumption now referred to Mdle. d'Angeri also displayed considerable dramatic power, both as a singer and an actress, and was much applauded in the principal situations—the duet with Marcel, and that with Raoul. Somewhat less use of the "tremolo" would add to the effect of this lady's singing, especially in cantabile passages. The two characters last named were represented respectively by Signori Bagagiolo and Nicolini; other familiar representations having been those of Madame Sinico as Margherita di Valois, Madame Scalchi as the Page, M. Faure as Conte di San Bris, Signor Cotogni as Conte di Nevers, &c.

For Thursday "I Puritani" was announced, the cast including Madame Trisolini's first appearance in England as Elvira. Friday (yesterday) was reserved for the preparations necessary for the state visit of the Shah, of Persia to-night, when the musical programme is to comprise the second act of "Dinorah" and the second and third acts of "Faust"—with Madame Patti as Dinorah and Margherita—and the mad scene from "Hamlet," with Mdle. Albani as Ophelia.

The fourth Floral Hall Concert took place last Saturday afternoon, the fifth being announced for Saturday week when, as before, the principal artists of the Royal Italian Opera will co-operate in the performance.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA.

On Saturday last "Norma" was given, for the first time this season, with the familiar feature of Mdle. Titiens's fine performance as the Druid priestess.

Three of the announcements for this week were of operas cast as recently given—on Monday "Les Huguenots," on Tuesday "Faust," and on Thursday "Mignon."

For to-night (Saturday) "Rigoletto" was promised, with the debut (in the principal character) of Signor Catalani.

LONDON MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

Mr. Henry Leslie commenced his new series of performances at the Royal Albert Hall on Saturday afternoon, when "The Messiah" was very finely given, with a band of one hundred instrumentalists and a choir of 800 voices, conducted by Mr. Leslie. The solo singers were Mesdames Nilsson and Trebelli-Bettini, Mdle. Marie Roze, Mr. Sims Reeves, and Signor Agnesi. On Wednesday afternoon the second concert took place, the programme on this occasion having consisted of a miscellaneous selection of secular and operatic music. Madame Patti, Mdle. Albani, and other eminent members of the Royal Italian Opera Company appeared on this occasion, besides Mr. Sims Reeves. Sir Julius Benedict and Mr. Leslie conducted.

The third and concluding festival concert is announced for this (Saturday) afternoon, when Rossini's "Stabat Mater" and Handel's "Coronation Anthem" (Zadok the Priest) will be given, besides a selection of sacred music. For this occasion Madame Nilsson is again engaged, besides other principal members of the Drury Lane opera establishment.

Mr. Leslie aims at rendering the festival an event of yearly recurrence, with a view to benefiting various metropolitan charities, and thus fulfilling a similar object to that which is so admirably served by our several provincial music-meetings.

The fourth New Philharmonic concert, on Wednesday evening, brought forward a new oratorio, "The Raising of Lazarus," composed by Mr. J. F. Barnett, who had previously gained much distinction by various secular works, particularly the cantata, "The Ancient Mariner," and "Paradise and the Peri," produced respectively at the Birmingham Festivals of 1867 and 1870. The composition now referred to is of very extensive design, consisting of no less than thirty vocal pieces, recitations, solos, duets, trios, quartets, and choruses, besides an elaborate orchestral overture. In the last-named piece, as in much of the choral music, there is some clever fugal writing, proving that Mr. Barnett has studied to good purpose in the severer as well as the lighter styles of composition. The pieces for solo voices are well written for the display of their respective capabilities. Of these numbers we may specify as having been the most effective in performance, the soprano airs "They that sow in tears" and "I will bless Thy name," sung by Madame Lemmens-Sherrington; the contralto solo "Thou art near," which pleased so much that Madame Patey had to repeat it; the tenor aria "Show forth Thy wonderful mercies," rendered by Mr. Wilford Morgan; and the baritone solo "O forgive me," by Mr. Santley. The trio "The mercies of the Lord," sung by this gentleman and the two ladies already named, was one of the encores of the evening. Several of the choruses, too, produced an evident impression; among others, "Let your hearts be strengthened," "It is good to give praise," "Yea, Lord," "She goeth to the grave" (for female voices), "Give glory to the Lord," &c. A

full and efficient band was associated with a numerous chorus, and the performance was conducted by Mr. Barnett, who was loudly applauded.

Two highly-skilled violoncellists gave their concert this week—M. Taque and M. Cros St. Ange; the former long resident here, the latter a recent visitor.

The programme of the third subscription concert of the West Choral Union, on Monday, included a performance of Mr. John Thomas's dramatic cantata, "Idwelyn."

Mr. Charles Hall completed his series of pianoforte recitals yesterday (Friday), when his programme comprised Schubert's last (posthumous) solo sonata, in B flat; several shorter unaccompanied pieces; Brahms's quartet in G minor (repeated by desire); and Beethoven's "Kreutzer" sonata, for piano and violin, in association with Madame Norman-Néruda.

At the concert of Signor Tito Mattioli, this (Saturday) evening, that eminent pianist will perform one of the pieces left by Rossini in manuscript—a tarantella, interspersed with choros.

The fifth of this year's summer concerts at the Crystal Palace takes place to-day (Saturday); and on Monday a grand fête is to be given there (of course, including music), for the benefit of the sufferers by the recent destruction of the Alexandra Palace.

A musical performance is to be given in the Royal Albert Hall on Monday, as part of the proceedings connected with the state reception of the Shah of Persia. The programme includes an ode composed for the occasion by Mr. Barnby.

THEATRES.

On Friday week, at Drury Lane, Madame Ristori appeared in Schiller's "Marie Stuart," a character which she sustains in the grand style of art; and, on Wednesday, in "Elizabeth, Queen of England," a part which she has made entirely her own. Next week we shall have to consider her Marie Antoinette, a rôle which she performed for the first time on Friday. We are happy to report that the houses are not only good, but increasing in the number of the audience.

There has been a morning performance, at the Haymarket, of "The School for Scandal," which was eminently successful, and warranted the announcement that it would be repeated to-night. With Miss Madge Robertson in Lady Teazle and Mr. Chippendale in Sir Peter, the cast could not be otherwise than satisfactory. In addition, too, there was Mr. Howe as Joseph Surface, Mr. Kendal as Charles, and Mr. Buckstone as Sir Benjamin Backbite. The entire representation was of rare excellence, and all the characters were competently interpreted.

A new comedy was presented at a morning performance at the Olympic, on Saturday, entitled "Twixt Cup and Lip," written by Mr. C. A. De la Plume. The dialogue of the piece was its best point; but, as it is probable the little drama was never designed for permanent possession of the stage, it would be waste of space to delineate its plot and action.

Mr. H. J. Montague and Miss Rose Massey appeared on Saturday at the Globe, as Claude Melnotte and Pauline, in "The Lady of Lyons." The occasion was the benefit of the young and enterprising manager. Owing to its success, the play has been repeated nightly during the week.

"Tricorne and Cacolet" was reproduced on Monday evening at the Princess's, having received further corrections by the authorities. With a very few minor exceptions, the parts were filled by the actors who appeared at the Royalty. M. Brasseur's engagement seems to be at an end, as Mdle. Desclée is announced to appear on Monday in "Diane de Lys."

"DRIFTING AWAY."

The pretty piece of sentimental painting which we engrave, from the Royal Academy Exhibition, is by Mr. H. H. Cauty, a young and promising painter, who before this year had made his mark at Burlington House. The picture tells its pitiful tale plainly enough. The maiden with love-lorn look, sadly dropping her roses into the troubled, swiftly-gliding stream, as she stands beside the great tree-trunk which conceals her from the love-making couple in the distance, confesses but too plainly to disappointed hopes and rejected forsaken affection. The flowers are emblems of the love she must resign to a fate far beyond her control. The fast-flowing stream which divides her from the faithless one is typical at once of that fate of cruel separation, and of the resistless current of human hopes and fears, which, happily, however, sooner or later, reach the sea of oblivion. The costume may be that of to-day or a hundred years ago (so nearly are the two now assimilated), and the same old, old story may be of any date. The artist quotes in the catalogue the following appropriate lines by Adelaide Procter, in connection with his picture:—

Like hopes, perfumed and bright,
So lately shining, wet with dew and tears,
Trembling in morning light,
I saw them change to dark and anxious fears
Before the night.

The Birmingham Town Council has paid the £5000 demanded of them by the school board of the borough.

A fancy bazaar has been held at the Hanover-square Rooms in aid of the funds of the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat. Among its art-treasures was an album containing eighty water-colour drawings and sketches by eminent artists.

The fifty-eighth anniversary of the Royal Caledonian Asylum was celebrated on Monday evening at the Freemasons' Tavern. The chairman (the Earl of Rosebery), in giving "Prosperity to the Royal Caledonian Asylum," entered at length into its merits, and made an earnest appeal on behalf of its funds. The secretary announced a long list of subscriptions, amounting to nearly £2000.

Mr. William Galt has read a paper before the Society of Arts on "The Purchase of Railways by the State." It dismissed compulsory purchase as impracticable, and was hardly more sanguine about the Government being able to make fair terms in voluntary negotiation. Lord Derby, who presided, gave his own views at some length. He arrayed before the meeting a number of financial and political objections to State acquisition of the railways.

A conference of members of Parliament and representatives of working-class organisations and clubs was held last Saturday for the establishment of a Trades Guild of Learning. Mr. S. Morley, M.P., presided. It was decided that a Trades Guild of Learning be established, to promote technical education, including both practical and scientific knowledge of the various trades and industries practised in the United Kingdom; to promote a knowledge of history, political economy, jurisprudence, literature, science, and art among the working classes of the kingdom; and to promote that general culture and refinement of taste which grow out of habitual acquaintance with fine works of art, cultivated society, high-class literature, good music, and similar influences. A committee was appointed to make arrangements for carrying out the scheme.

LAW AND POLICE.

TRIAL OF THE CLAIMANT FOR PERJURY.

The evidence heard on Friday, the 15th, was still military—that of old Carabiniers. Stephen Shepherd narrated how, at his first interview with the Claimant, he put crucial questions to him, only one of which he answered correctly. John Law, a Carabinier, said he knew nothing of Tichborne in Ireland, but that he was in his yes, and none in his nose. Mr. C. was a Major in the Common Pleas. Dublin, was connected with the Tichborne family and with that of the Major's Carabinier. He had known Roger familiarly when he was quartered in Dublin, having seen him at his own house and at his own club. He had "unmistakably" the opinion that the defendant was not the man. Captain S. Hall, who commanded the steamer in which the Claimant sailed to Panama, testified to his conduct on board, which gave rise to the impression that he was lowbred and ignorant. He had been at Melbourne in 1854, and could not credit that a picked-up crew arriving there should not be regularly reported. In course of examination as to the Claimant's account of the Bell, Captain Hall stated that such a vessel with twelve feet of water in the hold would have her upper deck under water. Richard Redman, a new witness, who only introduced himself to the prosecution a fortnight ago, identified the defendant as a man whom he had met in 1853 at a sheep station called "Nowhere-else," about fifty miles from Horsham, Victoria. He was then known as Arthur, and his office was cook and hutkeeper. In general conversation he spoke of his father as a butcher, and said he knew Wapping. Redman could not tell the name of the owner of the station, and he admitted that Arthur and he were not specially friendly.

The military evidence was resumed on Monday morning with the evidence of Major Foster, who accounted for his positive recollection of Roger Tichborne by affirming that he was the officer who received him into the regiment. He had told the Claimant, when the latter called upon him, that he was not Tichborne, and he now repeated in court that he was "most certainly not." Captain McEvoy based his claim to special knowledge of Tichborne on the circumstance that they were the only two Roman Catholic officers in the regiment. The Claimant, on inviting him to dinner at Croydon, had addressed him as "Dear Ned," a name he was never known by in the regiment. The answers given by him to Captain McEvoy's questions were so unsatisfactory that the Captain did not stay to dinner. He confessed in the witness-box that from the first he had formed a strong opinion that the Claimant was not Roger. Lord St. Lawrence, eldest son of Lord Howth, who knew Roger Tichborne in Dublin, was of opinion that the defendant was not Roger. John Etheridge commenced a new series of witnesses—the Tichborne and Alresford men. John's peculiar reminiscence referred to an occasion when he had hit Sir Roger Tichborne's dog for hunting his cat. He had met the Claimant on the road to Tichborne in 1866, and was asked by him if he would be surprised to hear that the speaker was Sir Roger come to life again. John replied with an expletive which expressed much more than scepticism. George Page, formerly groom to Colonel William Greenwood, had shown equally little faith, if more courtesy, when posed with a similar question at Alresford. "This person," he told Mr. Hawkins, "is no more Roger Tichborne than I am."

Nearly a whole day was devoted on Tuesday to Mr. Henry Danby Seymour, half-brother of the late Lady Tichborne. He described to the Court the family affairs of Roger's father from his marriage settlement onward, how the money was obtained for Roger's commission, what had been his connection with the borough of Poole, the terms on which he lived with the Seymours, and the manner in which he parted from them on his departure for South America. The first interview between witness and the Claimant, at Alresford, in the house of Mr. Hopkins, was made a crucial point by both sides. Mr. Seymour laid stress on the Claimant having taken Burdon, a former attendant and companion of Roger Tichborne, for "his uncle Nangle." The witness was also struck by his having forgotten his French, and his not remembering anything about Roger's old friend Mandreville. Mr. Seymour acknowledged having remonstrated with Lady Tichborne about what he considered her delusions respecting the Claimant, and advised her not to send him any money. He never saw the tattoo marks, but had heard of them. He had never heard of a brown mark on Roger's side, nor of a peculiarity in his thumb. Mr. Burdon, a Customs officer, had been in the service of the Doughtys since he was four years old, and had subsequently become servant to Sir James Tichborne. As a boy he and Roger had bathed together, and he had a perfect recollection of the marks upon him. One was a round spot on the chest like the depression of a boil. He remembered Roger having been tattooed. Witness was certain that the defendant was not Roger Charles Tichborne. Mr. John F. Talbot, of Lyme Regis, had lived at various times with Roger Tichborne during his boyhood. His recollection was perfectly clear up to 1849. He had never seen any brown mark on his side, but recollected the seton mark on his shoulder and the tattooing on his left arm. His answer to the question of identity was an emphatic "Certainly not."

The two rules for contempt of Court in the Tichborne case were returnable on Wednesday morning. The first was against the publishers of the *Leeds Evening Express*, for having printed a letter of Mr. Guildford Onslow, M.P., imputing perjury to the witnesses for the prosecution; and for this, as well as for a leader commenting upon some of the evidence, apologies had been made. A similar course was pursued by Mr. Appleyard, who had issued a placard containing a caricature of the defendant. The apologies were accepted by the Court, with an intimation that any future offences of the kind would be dealt with severely. Mr. Talbot's examination was then concluded, and Viscount de Brimont stepped into the box. He had been for six months at Stonyhurst with Roger Tichborne, and had continued on friendly terms with him till he sailed from England. Before the Claimant had arrived in Paris Lady Tichborne lived close to the Viscount, and he could see into her room. When talking with her about the expected Roger, she asked him "to see him in the door without speaking to him, and to testify that it was him." Mr. R. B. Mansfield, a connection of the Tichbornes by marriage, stated his first impression of Roger Tichborne as a boy, that he "looked like a wild animal just caught." He was remarkably narrow-shouldered. Witness believed that there was only one person in the world more convinced than himself that this is not Sir Roger—the defendant. Mr. Heysham had been educated in the village of Tichborne, where he met Roger frequently. His conversation was full of French idioms, and he could never sound the "th." Witness had particularly observed, when the Claimant was being examined at the Law Institution, that he pronounced the "th" plainly and distinctly. Mrs. Greenwood, widow of Colonel William Greenwood, of Brookwood, occupied the witness-box for the remainder of the day. Her evidence was very positive as to the tattoo mark, and circumstantial as to his personal appearance. She entered into a narrative of the incidents attending the Claimant's arrival at Alresford, and of fruitless efforts she

and her husband made to have an interview with him. Her cross-examination related to alleged conversations with Mr. Guildford Onslow, Captain Spicer, and a few Alresford cronies respecting the Claimant. Dr. Kenedy's versions of these were in almost every case strenuously denied.

Mr. Vincent Gosford was examined on Thursday, and his evidence was listened to with great interest. He was a bank agent to a London bank, and on his death bed had been appointed executor of Sir James Tichborne until his death. Of the identity of the Claimant he knew nothing until the year 1843, when he was introduced to Roger Tichborne in 1847, and continued on intimate terms with him until he left England, and was the last who saw him before his departure. The last letter he received from Roger was dated April 1, 1854, and said "I am about to receive a letter from Mr. George Glyn stating that the rolls had gone down. From that hour to the present he had never seen Roger Tichborne. Mr. Gosford noticed in the early days of 1849 that Roger admired his cousin Miss Doughty, and became greatly attached to her. Of the making the much-talked-of sealed memorandum Mr. Gosford gave the following account:—"We were sitting before the fire, talking about his cousin, when he jumped up and said, 'I'll tell you what I will do.' He went to the double desk, took a sheet of paper, and wrote on it. He threw it across the desk to me, saying, 'There, that's what I'll do for my cousin; read it.' I did so, and the contents have remained distinctly on my memory ever since. I tried to dissuade him from what he proposed, saying that such vows ought not to be lightly made, and that he had better put it off. He folded the paper up, put it into an envelope, and sealed it with red sealing-wax and his own seal. He also wrote outside, 'Memorandum, private and confidential.' He told me to keep it, and I put it in my desk, where it remained until it was destroyed. That was the only sealed document he ever gave me, and it never passed out of my possession. Roger never saw it afterwards. The substance of the memorandum, although it differs from Lady Radcliffe's document, was:—'Memorandum (private and confidential). If I marry my cousin within two or three years (I cannot say positively which) of this date, I promise to build a church at Tichborne to the Blessed Virgin; and a little lower down, 'I also intend to rebuild a house at Tichborne.' He signed it, 'R. C. Tichborne,' and dated it." Mr. Gosford was still under examination when the Court rose.

In the Court of Common Pleas, yesterday week, in the action for libel brought by Mr. Gourley, M.P., against Mr. Plimsoll, M.P., cause was shown against a rule which had been obtained by the defendant to administer to the plaintiff certain interrogatories, and at the conclusion of the arguments the Court discharged the rule. The arguments upon the rule for a criminal information for libel against Mr. Plimsoll by Mr. Norwood were brought to a conclusion, in the Bail Court, on Saturday. Mr. Justice Blackburn, held that, although Mr. Plimsoll had been culpably hasty in making statements in his book upon insufficient evidence, the case was not one for invoking the aid of the criminal law. The rule was therefore discharged, but without costs. Upon the application of Mr. Watkin Williams, special leave was reserved to Mr. Norwood, M.P., to bring a civil action for damages.

In the Court of Exchequer the Crown has recovered penalties exceeding £5000 against an illicit distiller, named Carmouche. He had purchased his machinery secondhand, in Brussels, and established his still at the Albion Works, Bow-common. Information was given to the Excise by a purchaser of perfumed spirits, the price of which was suspiciously low.

An action against the Hon. Sir John Mellor, one of her Majesty's Justices of the Court of Queen's Bench, was on Tuesday brought by Henry Jacobs, a native of Berlin, for false imprisonment, loss of health, and injury to reputation. The plaintiff had been tried and found guilty of felony, and accordingly sentenced by his Lordship. Jacobs, who described himself as a watchmaker and jeweller, claimed £10,000 damages from Mr. Justice Mellor for false imprisonment. The case arose out of the plaintiff's conviction for fraud at the Berkshire Summer Assizes of 1864, when the learned Judge, in the exercise of his judicial duties, passed a sentence of eighteen months' imprisonment, with hard labour. Jacobs, who conducted his own case, declared that he had been the victim of a conspiracy, and that Mr. Justice Mellor was a party to it. The jury returned a verdict for the defendant.

An action for breach of promise of marriage, brought by Miss Mary Cannon against Mr. James Phelps, was tried in Dublin on Monday, and ended in a verdict for the plaintiff for £75. She claimed £1000.

At the Middlesex Sessions, on Monday, John Shaw, sixty-eight; Edwin Shaw, thirty-one; William Shaw, twenty-nine, father and sons, were convicted of feloniously receiving between fifty and sixty dozen skins of leather, value £230, belonging to Messrs. Wigglesworth, of Lamb's passage, Chiswell-street, leather manufacturers. Mr. Serjeant Cox sentenced John to twelve, Edwin to nine, and William to six months' imprisonment, with hard labour; and ordered one of the witnesses, Mrs. Fuller, to receive a small sum for her good conduct in the matter. In the case of Thomas Longhurst Coleman, convicted of obtaining fraudulently a number of articles at the sale of Mr. Lizardi's effects, a sentence was deferred till next sessions, to enable the prisoner to state what he had done with the property.

Charles Jessop, a jeweller's assistant, having stolen about a thousand pounds' worth of his master's goods and buried the property in a wood at Horsham, admitted his guilt when brought a second time before Mr. D'Eyncourt, on Wednesday, and asked that the case might be dealt with summarily. He rested his plea chiefly on his having given information as to where the jewellery was hidden. The magistrate, however, said it was too serious a case to keep from a jury, and committed the prisoner for trial at the Middlesex Sessions.

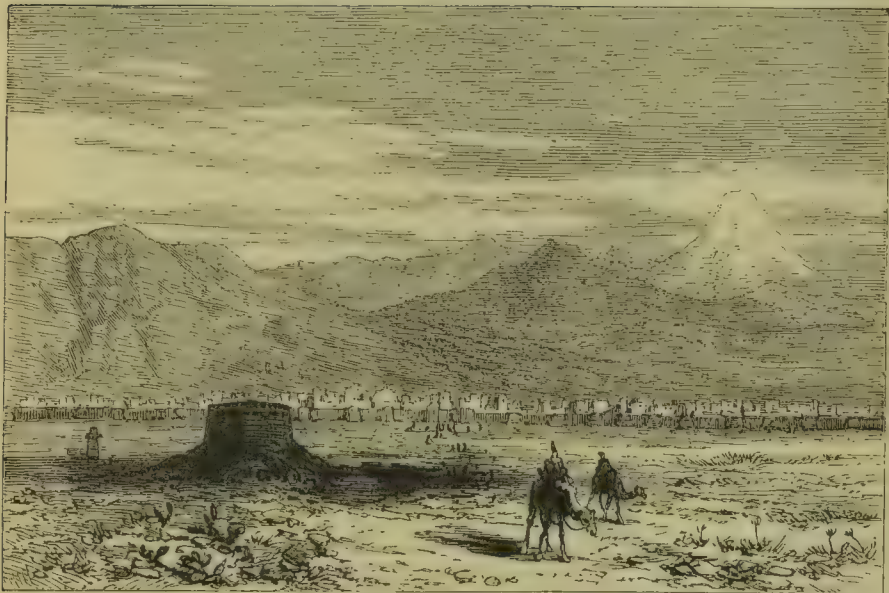
All four confederates in the great Bank forgery have at last appeared together at the Mansion House; and Macdonnell, the latest arrival from America, being an object of special attention in court. Mr. Poland, on Wednesday, stated the circumstances of his flight and extradition. Part of the evidence of previous witnesses was then read, that it might be put in against him. Towards the close of the sitting several new witnesses were called. One was Mr. Yates, of Liverpool, from whom Macdonnell had purchased a bill which was afterwards used as a model for the forgeries.

Dodwell and Sanday, the tea merchants who have been charged at the Guildhall with fraudulent bankruptcy, were committed last Saturday for trial.

On his arrival from Lisbon, Montague Goldsmith, the alleged chief of the gang answerable for the West-End jewellery frauds, was brought up at Marlborough-street on Monday. He was committed for trial on the certificates from the Central Criminal Court that a true bill had been found against him.

Several fresh convictions for neglecting to send children to school have taken place at the Lambeth and Southwark Courts.

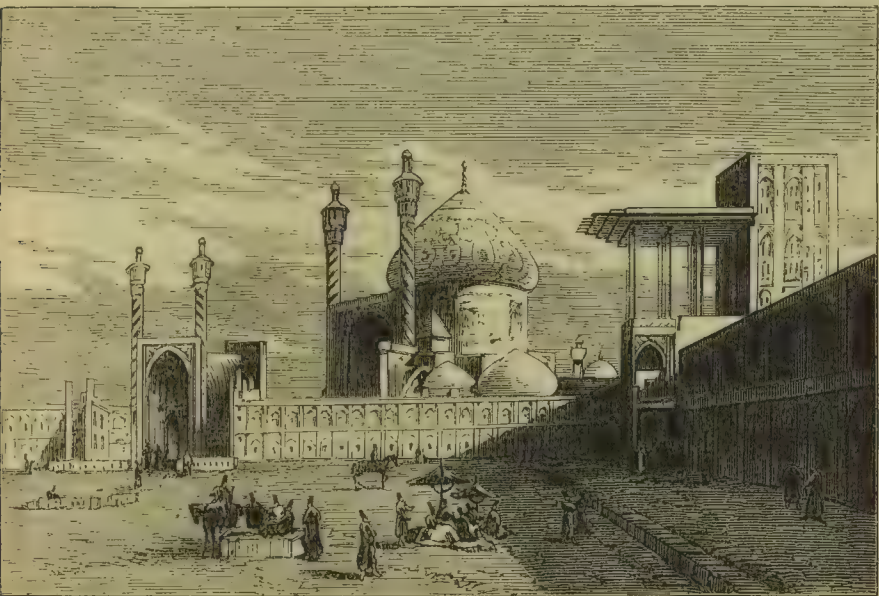
SKETCHES IN PERSIA.



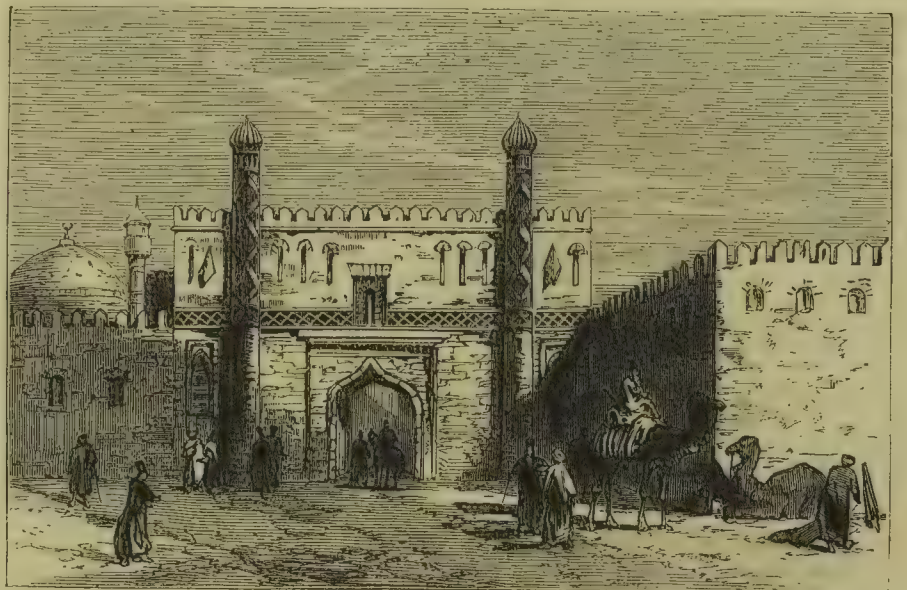
TEHERAN, THE CAPITAL OF PERSIA.



SHIRAZ, THE CITY OF HAFIZ.



MAIDAN SHAH, OR ROYAL SQUARE, ISFAHAN.



CITY GATE, TABREEZ.



EAST FRONT OF THE SHAH'S PALACE, TEHERAN.



OLD SOUTH GATE OF TEHERAN.

SKETCHES IN PERSIA.

The series of Illustrations of the cities of Persia which was commenced last week is continued in this Number of our Journal. Teheran, the modern capital, again takes precedence, though it is less associated than Ispahan and Shiraz with the more glorious and prosperous ages of Persian history. It was chosen for the metropolis at the time—about the end of last century—when the Kadjar dynasty gained the throne of Persia: they probably found Ispahan, the former capital, too far distant from their Turkish tribe on the Caspian. Teheran is a rather large town, about four miles in circuit, with mud walls and deep ditches around it, but in a dilapidated state. The streets are crooked, unpaved, and dirty, with open sewers along the middle of the roadway. There is a shallow canal which brings the water of the Kerij river across the stony plain to the city, which could not be inhabited without this supply. The city is overlooked by the Elburz mountains on the north side. The bazaars, where much trade is carried on by merchants from different provinces of Persia, from the Caspian and the Black Sea, from Russia, Turkey, and the countries that border India, are yet shabby places to look at, being narrow and dirty, mere brick vaults over the dusty or muddy floor of earth. Our view shows the interior of one bazaar at Teheran, called the Chehar Sook or Four Dials, where also the chief magistrate of Teheran sits in judgment for the trial of criminals. He appears here to be superintending the punishment of the bastinado, or thrashing the naked soles of the feet, applied by means of a cane switch to chastise an unlucky rascal who sprawls on the floor, his feet tied fast to the horizontal rod held by two policemen. This Illustration is from a sketch by Mr. F. C. Lewis. Within the walled city of Teheran is a smaller inclosed precinct, like the Kremlin of Moscow, with its own ramparts and fosse, which contains the Shah's palace, a fortress, and barracks for the soldiery. Our view of the east front of the palace, and that of the old south gate of Teheran, are from two of the photographs lent by M. Edouard Cotte. The other Illustrations relate to the cities of Ispahan, Shiraz, and Tabreez. A description of Ispahan was given in 1865 by Mr. John Ussher, who says, by the way, that he was pleased to find "the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS, only two months old," lying on



WALI-AHUD, OR HEIR APPARENT, THE SHAH'S SECOND SON.

the table of a gentleman he visited there, an Armenian merchant and British consular agent. He testifies, indeed, that Julfa, the Armenian quarter of this city, "exceeded in filth any other town he had seen." The population of Ispahan has dwindled to a tenth of what it was—nearly 600,000—in the palmy days of Shah Abbas the Great, who died in 1627. The once magnificent and splendid palaces at Ispahan, the Chehar Bagh or Four Gardens, the Chel Sitoon or Forty Pillars, and the Hasht Behesht or Eight Paradises, are described by Mr. Ussher; as well as the mosques of Meshed Shah and Sutf-Ollah, which stand on the Maidan Shah or Royal Parade, an open ground half a mile long by 250 yards wide, where troops are reviewed and prisoners are slaughtered. This city was ravaged and ruined by the invading Afghans a hundred and fifty years ago. Shiraz, too, the birthplace, home, and burial-place of two famous poets, Saadi and Hafiz, who lived, the former in the thirteenth, the second in the fourteenth century of our era, has fallen into a decayed and squalid condition. The tomb of Hafiz, in a garden of flowers and fruit-trees, may be visited with some feelings of personal interest by the student of old Persian literature. His genius, as a lyrical poet, will always be admired by those acquainted with his graceful elegies and odes. From Shiraz, in the south of Persia, near the ruins of the antique Persepolis, Mr. Ussher travelled northward through Ispahan and Teheran to Tabreez, the chief town of Azerbaijan, which is not far from Mount Ararat, between the Caspian and the Euxine, a country identified with the ancient Media. Tabreez is built among the bleak hills at an elevation of 4500 ft. above the sea level, and its climate in winter is extremely severe, while in summer it is destitute of a proper supply of water. Yet the population is 80,000, and it is the busiest town in Persia, though less important than it was in former times. It has suffered greatly from earthquakes, for which reason it is usual to make the houses but one story high. This place, then named Ganzaca, was captured by the Roman Emperor Heraclius about the end of the sixth century. It is very near the Russian frontier.

The political constitution of Persia is despotic. The Shah, or, to call him by his full, formal title, "Shah-in-Shah" (that is, "King of Kings"), is absolute ruler within his dominions, and sole master of the lives and goods of all his subjects, both high and low. The whole revenue of the country being at their disposal, recent Sovereigns of Persia have been able to amass



ZIL-US-SULTAN, THE SHAH'S ELDEST SON.

large fortunes. That of the present occupier of the throne is estimated at four millions sterling, one half of which is represented by diamonds, the largest of which, of 178 carats, and known as the Derya-i-Noor, forms, with other precious stones, part of the crown jewels.

The religion of the Persians, or of the dominant race in Persia, is Mohammedanism of the Sheah sect, which regards Hosein, son of Fatima and Ali, the daughter and nephew of Mohammed, as the true successor to the great Prophet of the Moslem faith, in opposition to the Caliph of Damascus, from whom the Sultan of Turkey derives his ecclesiastical power. The tomb of Hosein, at Kerbela, near Bagdad, where he was killed in battle, and the tomb of his father at Meshed Ali, are therefore visited with peculiar veneration by all devout members of the Sheah communion. But as a proof of the liberality of the Shah it is mentioned that, while adhering strictly to the religion of the Koran, and regarded in Persia as the viceregent of the Prophet, he not long ago granted to the Nestorian Christians in his dominions a site for a church; he also headed a subscription list with a handsome donation towards its erection; an example which was speedily followed by his own Ministers, the Russian, Turkish, and French Ministers at the Court of Teheran, and the principal merchants of Persia.

THE SONS OF THE SHAH.

The Shah's eldest son, who bears the title of Zil-us-Sultan, or the Shadow of the King, is now about twenty-four years old. After holding the post of Governor of the Caspian province of Mazandaran he was appointed, when about fifteen years old, to be Governor of the province of Fars, of which Shiraz is the chief town. He was subsequently made Governor of Ispahan, and again, in 1869, Governor of Fars, which post, after holding it a short time, he left and retired to the capital. But he again went to Shiraz as Governor of Fars, for the third time, in the summer of last year. This Prince is acquainted with the French language, and has learnt the art of photography. He is much addicted to field sports, and is, like his father, a remarkably clever shot. On account of his mother not being a Princess of the Kadjar tribe, he is disqualified for succession to the throne, which is destined for the Heir Apparent, who is called the "Wali Ahud." This Prince holds the post of



THE SADR AZIM, PRIME MINISTER OF PERSIA.

Governor of the province of Azerbaijan, which has usually been held by the Heir Apparent for the last three successive reigns. He resides generally at Tabreez. The third portrait we give is that of another of the Shah's sons, who bears the title of Naib-us-Sultaneh. He usually resides at Teheran, and is the only one of the King's sons who permanently remains at Court. The only other adult son of the Shah died at Meshad, the capital of Khorasan, a few years since.

THE SHAH'S PRIME MINISTER.

The Prime Minister or Grand Vizier, whose portrait we also engrave, bears the official designation of Sadr-Azim. It is owing to this statesman's desire for progress and his enlightened views that the Shah has felt himself at liberty to undertake his present visit to Europe, though his Majesty has long entertained a wish to do so. The Sadr-Azim's previous career was chiefly passed in the diplomatic service.

We are indebted to Captain Beresford Lovett, C.S.I., Royal Engineers, for the portraits we have engraved. That of the Sadr-Azim was taken by the Brothers Abdullah, photographers, of Constantinople.

ALESSANDRO MANZONI.

The glories of Italian literature, as of Italian painting, sculpture, and architecture, belong to a past age. Since the political disasters which suppressed the liberties of that nation about three centuries and a half ago, the genius of Italy has produced comparatively little that is of true originality and high excellence in poetry or imaginative art, though it has almost created the modern art of music, in which Germany has since achieved greater results. A few good prose writers in the departments of provincial history, moral philosophy, and jurisprudence, the didactic poet of "Il Giorno," the comedian Goldoni, and the tragedian Alfieri, were all that Italy could show against the splendid array of French, English, and German authors since the Protestant Reformation. In this humiliating silence, which might be ascribed to intellectual exhaustion, and which was only equalled by the abject mental impotence of Spain, had long remained the native country of Dante, Petrarch, and Boccaccio, of Tasso and Ariosto, whose strains had formerly been



NAIB-US-SULTANEH, THE SHAH'S FOURTH SON.

echoed by our Chaucer and Spenser, and had even helped to tune those of our Milton and our Shakspeare. The nineteenth century, by virtue of that admirable revival of the Italian national spirit, which has quite recently gained an amazing victory over the greatest apparent obstacles to the unity and independence of Italy, was destined to witness also the production of some works of original genius, after a lengthened period of sterility and triviality, in the Italian literature. Manzoni's prose romance of "I Promessi Sposi," which was published in 1827, is certainly worth more in this kind than all that had been written in Italy since the time of the Medici. And though he has been ably followed by several other novelists of the present or the last generation—Cesare Cantù, Massimo D'Azeglio, and Tomaso Grossi, while Leopardi, Giusti, and other lyrical poets have shown considerable force in their own department—the fame of Alessandro Manzoni is still unquestionably superior to that of any of his countrymen in the modern world of letters. As a literary artist, with reference to form and style, he was the disciple of Byron and Walter Scott; but he was no mere imitator of any model; and in some qualities, both of conception and execution, his best works have merits of their own perhaps equal to those of the best English writers of his age. "I Promessi Sposi," for example, is scarcely inferior to any one of Scott's historical novels, taken singly, if the rest of the Waverley series had never been produced. It is a Milanese story of the seventeenth century, concerning the fortunes of a youthful pair among the peasantry of a village near the Lake of Como, whose betrothed loves are crossed, on the eve of their wedding, by the lawless insolence of a neighbouring feudal lord. The terrible ravages of the plague in the city of Milan are described in a later part of the story; and there is a most characteristic portraiture of the habits of the clergy, monastic and secular, and other features of Italian society in that age. Every learner of the language, in England or any foreign country, has to read "I Promessi Sposi" as a modern Italian classic, and it lends additional delight to that pleasing study. Manzoni was the author of many other works, several tragedies, and hymns or lyrical poems; the most celebrated of which is the "Cinque Maggio," an ode on the death of Napoleon I. He was born at Milan, March 8, 1784; the son of a Count Manzoni, whose title he inherited; and his mother was a daughter of Beccaria, the eminent reformer of criminal jurisprudence. The earlier part

of Manzoni's life was spent at Paris, but after returning to Italy he resided constantly in his native city. He was never an active politician, but King Victor Emmanuel appointed him one of the Italian Senate in 1860. He had long survived Byron and Scott, his contemporaries, and had reached the age of eighty-nine at the time of his death, which took place on May 23. His funeral was attended with public honours. The whole nation will join in erecting a monument to the name of Manzoni.

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REVIEW OF CUIRASSIERS OF THE GUARD AT BERLIN IN HONOUR OF THE SHAH OF PERSIA.

BY THE WAY.

Novelists and other accomplished writers who, in the course of their occupations, find it necessary to endeavour to imitate the style and spelling of the uneducated, will do well to cut from the *Times* of Tuesday last a letter communicated by Lord Ducie. It is written to one of his Lordship's tenants by a man named George Arnold, formerly in the employ of the receiver, but who was induced to emigrate to Brazil. Of his disappointment, bereavements, and hardships we need not speak. We refer to the letter (which has a postscript nearly as long as itself) as a capital type of an uneducated person's composition. It is not given to many persons to imitate such things faithfully. Most lady writers think that they have presented a wonderfully satirical sketch of a servant's style when they have prefixed an aspirate to every vowel in a letter or a speech, which the class in question never do. Men manage better, but are sorely tempted to infuse into their imitations a smartness which is equally inartistic. They will not study the mind of an ignorant person, but will cling to conventional caricature. George Arnold's letter, which is full of good sense, is as diverting as anything Tom Hood wrote in the same fashion, though devoid, of course, of the elaborated blunders which he legitimately put in for the sake of fun. Hear Mr. Arnold about the country. "I forgot to tell you what sort of a country it is. I must tell you that it ought to be called All hills instead of Brazils, for that is just what it is and the hills are all over trees and rubish their is no Grass at all. But up in the Collene (colony) their is no Chance of getting their Crops neither of Black Beens nor Indean Corn for the Whild pigs and the Monkes will fetch it all in the nights, and that is Chief of what they grow their is plenty of Slaves hear but their is no Game Only very larg and small Snakes and Grass hoppers and toads nearly as Big as hedge-hogs please right back for we are informed that all the letters are opened and stoped if they dont sute." Mr. Arnold's suspicions may be well founded; but his own case is exceptional, and we are very glad that his letter was not "stoped."

The Primitive Methodists, sometimes called Ranters, are supposed, and we believe justly, to effect much good among the class that does not much appreciate cultivation in the clergy. While they are content to labour in an unostentatious manner it would be most unbecoming to criticise their work; but when they come to the front, and have their orations reported, worldlings may be allowed to smile at certain peculiarities. We notice in the *Surrey Comet* an account of the opening of a new Primitive Methodist chapel. Here are two of the speeches that were delivered. "The Rev. Jesse Ashworth said that the chapel in which they were assembled was a credit to the town, and to the builders. It was also a credit to the church, which was only a little boy two years old, so that he was sure they had prepared a good suit of clothes to put him into (laughter). It was a marvellous thing, and if he had the power of conferring degrees he should confer the degree of A.M. (which a little boy had interpreted to mean 'after money') on his friend John Wilson." The laughter and applause which rewarded the Rev. Mr. Ashworth's wit stimulated the next speaker to a still nobler effort. The Rev. Dr. Antliff told the following anecdote respecting a son of Erin (an Irishman):—"A gentleman had his coat stolen, and the man who found it, having returned it to the owner, received half a crown as his reward. The grateful Irishman exclaimed 'Long life to yer Honour! May ye live till ye die! and may every hair of yer head be a mould candle to light yer sowle to glory!' A great many persons," said the speaker, "did not live till they died, for they were dead while they lived, but their Great Master," &c. As we are not writing for Primitive Methodists, we suppress the theological application. But it occurs to us that the "Connection" will not gain by too profuse a scattering of such pearls before—the carnal.

On Saturday last the Stationers' Company gave a grand banquet, the Lord Mayor presiding, and the two English Primates, the Archbishop of Armagh, the Bishop of Winchester, and other distinguished men being among the guests. The Archbishop of Canterbury, in his very neat reply to the Lord Mayor, who proposed his Grace's health, and showed how the Primates in other days had exercised real supervision in regard to publications, mentioned that he could not say he was very happy to know that the company derived an important income from *Zadkiel's Almanack*. There was no correction of this statement at the dinner, but a letter has since been published in which it is affirmed that the company do not issue that almanack, and that the one they do issue contains much astronomy but no astrology. Everybody must be glad to know that such a body as the Stationers' Company has nothing to do with ridiculous jargon and impudent prediction. But there are thousands of fools in England who still believe in astrology. We think that the late Charles Knight told us that one of the almanacks, which commands an extensive sale, and which contains a column noting the various parts of the body which day by day come under astral influence, was one year purged of that ridiculous and offensive feature, but that the sale instantly dropped so largely that it became necessary "as matter of business" to replace the trash. It is a fact that in this "enlightened age" boobies exist who think that yesterday the stars had something to say to the back, to-day deal with the calves of the legs, and to-morrow will interfere with the labours of the chiropodist. And still we are unhappy unless we spend annually thousands in instructing Quashibungo not to be superstitious.

Mr. Bruce's replies to questions on domestic topics are usually of a mild kind; but we think that he may be congratulated on a perfect little triumph of meekness in his answer to Mr. Liddell and Lord Mahon, who complained of the slaughter in our streets by reason of the want of regulation of street traffic. The Home Secretary was very sorry to say that accidents had largely increased. Nearly 1000 persons were summoned last year for offences against the Traffic Acts. In 1869 there were 1706 accidents, in 1872 there were 2677. Mind, the Minister was not speaking of a city bombarded by besiegers, but of London, at peace with all the world except a body of owners of wheeled carriages. But what could he do? The police force had been strengthened, and there were comparatively few accidents at crowded points. Then the cabs blocked the way. But the public, and especially members of Parliament, favoured the "crawlers," and if an official tried to clear the streets of them he was attacked. Mr. Bruce is an excellent Minister in many respects, but the van-drivers and the trade-carriers are too strong for him, supported as they are by gentlemen who would deem such street regulation as is demanded a profane hindrance of commerce. All the same, we shall one day see all but passenger traffic driven out of our great thoroughfares during certain hours. Man was not made for goods, but goods were made for man; and this truth will dawn, if not on us before we are run over, upon our indignant posterity.

We could wish to invite the attention of the magistrates throughout the kingdom to something which the Home Minister said the other night, something which must meet general

approval. Referring to a case of cruelty to a horse—we do not care to recall it—Mr. Bruce said that the ruffian who had been sentenced had not been sufficiently punished, and that cruelty would be much repressed if, upon all occasions, the Bench would punish it to the utmost extent allowed by law. We hope that this intimation will have its effect. Mr. Bruce clearly undertakes not to remit any part of the sentence on a torturer of animals.

There lies before us a London newspaper, published on the 29th of May, 1802. There are, of course, but four columns on a side, and the sheet is small. The contents happen to be interesting. The great event recorded (and the opposition editor seems to think himself entitled to much credit that he has "given a fair account of it, without imitating the low ribaldry of the Treasury journals") is the banquet held on the previous day in honour of the birthday of William Pitt. The "heaven-born" declined to be present "on an occasion merely complimentary to himself;" but when his health was proposed, 140 noblemen and about 700 commoners assembled in Merchant Taylors' Hall, shouted and waved handkerchiefs for ten minutes, and then was sung, for the first time, Mr. Canning's song, "The Pilot that weathered the storm." The enthusiasm which this produced was almost indescribable, and Earl Spencer, chairman, by way of bringing the evening to an end handsomely, proposed "The Pilot," and the song was repeated, amid renewed raptures. Sir Robert Peel (*sic*) gave "The Chairman." So much for Mr. Pitt. But seventy years ago even Mr. Pitt was "not everybody." The Marchioness of Winchester was somebody; and let Baker-street lift up its head and learn that her elegant house, exquisitely furnished and with Gothic transparencies in the windows, was the talk of town. We are told that three Earls had gone off on a journey to Brighton, which arduous progress we hope they achieved safely. Mr. Sheridan's sarcasm against Mr. Windham, the defender of bull-baiting, is converted into a vulgarity. A sea-captain who had flogged a poor afflicted seaboys to death is acquitted, as it appeared that the boy did not die of the floggings, though one of them was continued at intervals for an hour and a half. Billington and Mara were about to sing in a duet, and Lumley Skeffington had "proved he could write a good play." The lady of John Dean Paul, Esq., had just presented him with a son. And, as we should like to finish our *resumé* with an epigram, we quote that "to give a masquerade to gratify the Fashionable World is a common thing; but to give one for the purpose of gratifying one half and affronting the other, that is the way to make a noise." Some deadly wrong avenged there, no doubt; but seventy years have passed, and those who were not asked to that entertainment have probably ceased to retain their anger.

THE SHAH AT BERLIN.

During the stay of the Shah of Persia at Berlin, which city he left on Saturday, the 7th inst., the Emperor of Germany and Crown Prince exerted themselves for the amusement of their Asiatic visitor. There was a gala performance of the opera of "Sardanapalus," at which their Majesties and his Royal Highness, with the Empress and Crown Princess of Germany, were present. Next morning, the Thursday, the Shah went to Potsdam, where he saw a grand review of all the regiments of the Prussian Guard, under the orders of the Crown Prince; but the Emperor of Germany was prevented by ill-health from taking part in this day's military parade. Our Illustration, from a sketch made on the spot by our Special Artist, shows the scene at the moment when the Cuirassiers of the Guard rode past the saluting-point. His Royal Highness the Crown Prince sits upon a curvetting charger in the foreground; while the Persian Monarch, who appears a little removed to the left, is easily recognised by his costume, with the fanlike ornament in his tall hat, and by the caparison of his steed, with the high-peaked saddle, jewelled bridle and frontlet, the large closed stirrups, and housings of embroidered cloth over the hind-quarters. When the review was done the Shah dined with the Emperor and Crown Prince at Babelsberg Castle. He was entertained in the evening at the new Sans Souci Palace by their Royal Highnesses. On the next day he went to look at the German Parliament, then sitting, and inspected the Museum, but declined attending the races in the Hoppe Gardens. He took leave of the Emperor and Empress that afternoon, and started for Essen at eight o'clock next morning. At Essen, in Rhenish Prussia, he inspected Krupp's great cannon foundry, and gave a large order for field guns. He thence went to Wiesbaden, Frankfurt, Baden, Cologne, Spa, and Brussels, arriving at the Belgian capital last Monday afternoon. At Brussels he was met by Sir Henry Rawlinson, inviting him to England in the name of Queen Victoria.

Mr. David Robertson, M.P., has been elevated to the Peerage under the title of Baron Marjoribanks, of Ladykirk. This will create a vacancy for the county of Berwick.

Mrs. Thomson, daughter of the poet Burns, died yesterday week, at Crossmyloof, near Glasgow, in her eighty-fourth year. The death of the widow of the Rev. Legh Richmond, who died at Clifton, in her ninety-sixth year, is also announced.

The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland has concluded its session in Belfast. The Moderator, in his parting address, referred, among other subjects, to the financial condition of the Church, and stated that the contributions to the sustentation fund showed a credit of £125,499, which was an increase of £8200 on last year's amount. The Sunday collections amounted to £14,531—an increase of £4500 since 1864.

In the month of November, 1871, Mr. Hermon, the senior member for Preston, wrote to the Mayor of that borough (Mr. Miles Myres), stating that he had felt deeply the terrible disasters that had befallen our mining population, and, after considering whether anything could be done to prevent such catastrophes as those by which the public mind is so frequently shocked, he decided to offer £200 for the best essays on the subject—£150 for the first prize and £50 for the second. Mr. Myres communicated the proposal to the persons most likely to take an interest in the matter, and the result was that about 300 essays were sent in, the great proportion of them being from practical miners. Mr. Staveley Hill, Q.C., M.P., Mr. T. Hughes, Q.C., M.P., and Mr. Rupert Kettle, County Court Judge, accepted the post of judges, and they have just completed their task. In their award the judges write that they have agreed upon bracketing as of equal merit for the first prize the essays by Mr. Robert Eloit, of 63, West-street, Sheffield, and Mr. William Galloway, of 3, Duke-street, Portland-place, London. These essays are both of very high merit. They place as next to these an essay by Mr. Hopton, of St. Helens; and are of opinion that the essay by Mr. Bainbridge, of the Duke of Norfolk's colliery office, Sheffield, is entitled to high commendation. Mr. Hermon writes, on Thursday week, that he has increased the amount to be distributed to £275—that is to say, two first prizes of £100 each, one second prize of £50, and one third prize of £25.

NEW BOOKS.

AMONG THE POETS.

Language, so far as the use of it is to conceal thought, has been most skilfully and ingeniously employed in *Red Cotton Night-Cap Country; or, Turf and Towers*, by Robert Browning (Smith, Elder, and Co.). Or, perhaps, it would be more correct to say that, though thoughts apparently abound, it is more difficult to grasp and disencumber them than to hold and skin so many eels. Indeed, the volume is likely to have upon most readers an effect similar to that which Persius had upon the blessed St. Jerome. The poem, as it is called on the last page but one, is an extreme example of what is regarded in these latter days as the art of poetry. It is a game of hide and seek between the writer and the reader. It is written in unrhymed lines with ten beats to the line; it abounds with laboriously compounded words; it is noticeable for a conspicuous absence of the definite and of the indefinite article, so as to recall the memory of those wonderful books wherewith our childhood was exercised in the making of Latin verses; and it presents such a collection of involved sentences and peculiar grammatical constructions as ought to find great favour in the eyes of those gentlemen who preside over competitive examinations and delight in torturing the candidates with unprofitable puzzles contrived out of the English language. But if the poetic faculty consist in the power of, as it were, making the deaf to hear, the dumb to speak, and the blind to see; of revealing, by a magic touch applied to the duller brain or the grosser senses or the more sluggish soul, a glimpse of fancy's fairyland, of reality's unsuspected graces, and of the regions where the sublime or the profound lie far beyond the unassisted vision of ordinary men; of striking the chords of sympathy and evoking latent sentiments; and of expressing inspiration melodiously enough to make the sticks and stones of mankind dance about to the music; then, sooth to say, little of the poetical faculty is discernible in the unmusical poem under consideration. No doubt there is a certain quantity of the right metal; but there is a grievously disproportionate amount of quartz. Nothing but a strong conviction of the paramount importance of telling the truth, according to our lights, would induce us to write thus of an author whose readily acknowledged genius commands the greatest respect; but even Homer nodded, and the fact has been recorded. Of the obscurity alluded to an explanation may be offered for what it is worth—the subject of the poem is of a very delicate, not to say disagreeable, character, and it may have been thought advisable, so far as the details were concerned, to bear in mind a memorable admonition and "wrap 'em up sangvidge-like." There is a more or less relevant introduction in which the reader, not perhaps without hesitation, will feel inclined to lay a wager that he can detect, amidst some shadowy, bewildering, and ponderously humorous remarks about fiddles and nightcaps, a clue to the origin and meaning of the title. Thus fortified the reader will proceed, with a little more confidence probably, to tackle a psychological study, founded upon and intermingled with a true story of real life. The story, briefly told, is as follows:—A rich young gentleman, wishing to perform that impossible feat of following both the Lord and Baal and combining religion with an indulgence in the lusts of the flesh, is in due course enslaved by a married woman, who is already an adulteress; he, though she is subsequently divorced, cannot lawfully marry her, for they are not happy English Protestants; he lives with her in sin; he is supposed to break his mother's heart; he attempts to separate from his paramour; he burns off, in a fit of madness or religious enthusiasm, his two hands; he is, of course, desperately ill for a while; he, as soon as he recovers, returns to his wallowing in the mire—that is, to his paramour; he finds her constant, confiding, and clearly his "affinity;" he renews with her their sinful life, winked at, it would seem, by the Church in consideration of handsome presents; he is still troubled in mind and spirit; he becomes what some people excusably call mad, though the legal authorities differ from them; and, after having provided for his faithful paramour, he dies a violent death, which is attributed by some to suicide, but by the legal authorities to accident. Certainly the characters of the man and of the woman are not unworthy of psychological investigation, and they—especially that of the man—are analysed with much subtlety, shrewdness, quaintness, and force; but, a few passages excepted, it is difficult to see why the analysis should have been clothed in the garb of poetry, unless it be that by that means there would be obtained certain rights of mystification and literary jugglery. There is many a line to prove that the author can be plain and prosaic enough when he pleases. The principal character, the young man of the story, is represented as having been morally distempered by a mixture of Castilian and French blood in his veins; but, assuredly, his like are by no means to seek amongst young men of pure English breed; for, of course, the self-mutilation does not affect the question of moral and religious bias. Anyhow the poem, as a bit of reading, will be found a hard nut to crack; and it may be that whatever in the way of disparagement has here been said will be considered by some good judges to be a proof that the poem was not studied in a proper, earnest, humble spirit, and with faculties capable of grasping the poet's idea; if so, such is the poet's well-earned reputation and undoubted genius that, at once and by anticipation, the possible rebuke is respectfully accepted, and the only excuse—viz., the delivery of an opinion honestly and carefully formed—is hereby tendered.

That the lay of an uncaged and untrained "bird o' freedom" should be wild and incoherent might be reasonably expected, and the expectation is amply fulfilled in *Songs of the Sun-Lands*, by Joaquin Miller (Longmans). The songster's notes, however, are poured forth freely, spontaneously, and, not seldom, melodiously; and, if his strains appear on the whole to be aimless and themeless, still they are often as pleasing to the ear and as satisfying to certain mental moods as are the roar of the sea, the dash of the waterfall, the howl of the wind, the murmur of the brook, the cry of the cuckoo, and other sounds which harmonise with the feelings but defy the understanding. Tastes differ; but it will not be surprising if the majority of readers should assign the palm of beauty, grace, and melody to the composition entitled "Isles of the Amazons." A quaint old crone is supposed to have told the author a curious tale, which he has amplified and altered according to his fancy and set to the music of his lyre. A fair young knight, with blue eyes and golden hair, goes forth from the banks of the Guadalquivir and pursues, with his Spanish comrades, a career of blood and rapine in South America. But he is soon disgusted with the spectacle that meets his eyes and touches his heart. He, in plain prose, deserts, and, being a minstrel as well as a knight, he determines to make for the Isles of the Amazons and "sing in the sun" for the rest of his days. He is taken by the Amazons to be a woman, because he is shedding tears when they first behold him, and they have no idea that a man ever indulges in that weakness or luxury, and they carry him off and treat him as if he were of their own sex. The consequence is that, as these warlike women, who are represented as being extremely well favoured, have a way of bathing and running about on the sands

without any covering but that with which nature has endowed them, he is exposed to a complete battery of personal charms, and, though he betakes himself as soon as possible to an honourable flight, he cannot altogether dispel the vision. Moreover, he yearns for love, and he sings of it so sweetly that even the queen of the Amazons feels the sway of an influence which both she and her sisterhood are bound to resist. But it is of no use resisting fate; so, when male invaders come down upon the home of the Amazons, there is a general laying down of weapons, the two sexes acknowledge the power of amatory strains, the queen takes the minstrel for her king-consort, and a similar course is presumably adopted by the other bellicose ladies. And thus what is in many parts a charming production is connubially brought to a close, though the nuptial ceremony is of a simple and unconventional sort.

Poetry, true poetry, of no mean order, is unquestionably to be found in *Madonna's Child*, by Alfred Austin (William Blackwood and Sons). Exquisitely musical numbers, tender grace, simple pathos, and vivid description are its chief characteristics. The music, too, reminds one occasionally of the stately roll of a full-toned organ. On the whole, however, the subject, though it might have been so handled as to admit of the sublimest and most original conceptions, is treated elegantly indeed, and touchingly, but not to any great extent powerfully or originally. The story is slight and somewhat trite. The slightness is accounted for on the ground that the poem is "but an excerpt" from a not yet completed work; and the triteness arises from the fact that the main incident is not unknown in novels, and is older than the unsuccessful attempt of Miss Milbank to convert Lord Byron. In the present case, however, the pious young girl stops short of marriage, and, abandoning the fascinating unbeliever who cannot be brought to bend his haughty knees to his Maker and to Madonna, though he is, apparently, willing enough to kneel before the visible and corporeal charms of "Madonna's child," makes up her mind to "cling to Mary and Christ crucified." The idea of trying to impress the unbeliever by a service at Milan Cathedral is a good one, because, devoid as it may be of novelty, it is quite in accordance with the principles upon which young women's religious views are popularly supposed to be determined, and it gives the poet an opportunity of writing some very fine descriptive stanzas. It is a pity that Mr. Alfred Austin should be afflicted with a morbid fancy that "no poem," as he says, "can at present hope for fair critical treatment to which his name is attached." He has a fair chance with the rest of the poets.

That clever and accomplished American scholar, Mr. Bayard Taylor, whose translation of Goethe's "Faust" was lately commended for its unquestionable merits, has produced an original narrative poem, in blank verse, called *Lars; a Pastoral of Norway*, the London publishers of which are Strahan and Co. Its style and tone bear much resemblance to "Enoch Arden;" but there is no apparent effort at conscious imitation of Tennyson, and Mr. Bayard Taylor is fully able to hold on his own course, being gifted with a fair share of imaginative energy. The story, which is told with straightforward simplicity of manner, but so as to prove sufficiently affecting, relates a moral revolution in the strong manly character of a young Norwegian peasant, an emigrant from his native land to America, who had unhappily killed another man in a fight provoked by the rage of jealousy. He wanders about like Cain, though far less guilty, till he finds a home with the good New England Quaker, Ezra Mendenhall, whose gentle daughter Ruth becomes the healing and redeeming angel of his life, and not only consoles him with her love, but converts him to the faith of Christ. The return of Lars to Norway, with his wife Ruth, intent on preaching the gospel of peace and charity to his wild countrymen, and the ordeal of true moral courage which he has to go through when challenged to justify his former behaviour by another combat, which he refuses upon the highest grounds of Christian principle, occupy the concluding part of this interesting poem.

It is impossible not to feel a shock of mingled surprise and consternation, when, in spite of the fame which Mr. Browning has acquired inch by inch in the teeth of strong opposition, he has awarded to him, after patient, intelligent, and dispassionate criticism, "a respectable place among the third-class poets of our literature." Yet such is the fate he meets with in *A Comparative Estimate of Modern English Poets*; by J. Devey, M.A. (E. Moxon, Son, and Co.). But, of course, the dignity of the position assigned depends greatly upon the mode of classification. It is easy to imagine such an arrangement of classes as would make Shakespeare, like Jove amongst the Roman deities, occupy the first class all by himself, whilst a Milton would be put into the second class, and a Byron into the third. In that case there is no living poet whose admirers would have much reason to complain if he were declared to deserve "a respectable place" in the third class. It becomes necessary, therefore, to explain how Mr. Devey is guided in his classification of poets. In his first class "we get great creative power, many-sidedness, and a conjunction of grand conceptions with the emotional sublime." In the second there is "a lack of creative power, but frequent instances of either of the two sources of the sublime, combined with a prominent manifestation of the representative faculty;" and in the third, "rarity of any instance of the sublime, with great vigour of description, in which the spiritual dominates over the material." The third class is denominated by Mr. Devey "the æsthetic order;" and, though it may be generally admitted that Mr. Browning belongs to this order, there is something almost ludicrously incongruous in the association which is thus rendered inevitable; for the author of "Fifine at the Fair" is thus made to occupy a "respectable place" in a class in which, according to Mr. Devey, Cowper, Thomson, and Goldsmith stand at the head; Herrick, with Falconer, Drayton, and Cowley revolving about him in different orbits, sparkles in the middle; and Blair, Young, Prior, Parnell, Gay, and Denham take the lower and the lowest positions. Of course there is no reason why poets who, because they possess or lack the same gifts, are put into the same class should resemble one another in other respects; yet a classification which brings together Cowper and Browning, or Goldsmith and Browning, is likely to bewilder the majority of readers. The fact is that, as Mr. Devey himself says, "a poet is more or less the product of his age." And though, in the cases of all great poets, "each has dominated his age or soared above it," the critic's procedure will hardly be consistent with justice when he attempts to class together mediocre poets of one age and the best of another, simply because the same regions of Parnassus appear to have been avoided or frequented by both. A poet, nowadays, is heavily handicapped in the race for fame; and, though over-weight may reduce a first-rate horse or other animal to the pace of common "platers," it does not reduce him to their class. But enough of classification, which is always, unless it be confined to a single age at a time, difficult and delusive. As for Mr. Devey's book, on the whole, it is well worth reading; for it is, apparently, the outcome of careful study and conscientious reflection. It commences with some remarks concerning the value of "universal suffrage in art." These are followed by a

somewhat elaborate "philosophical analysis" of the elements which constitute poetry. Then comes a "classification of the poets," which, for reasons above alluded to, is not completely satisfactory. After this a few pages are allotted to a consideration of "individual characteristics." A chapter is then devoted to an essay touching "English Schools of Poetry." This is seconded by a chapter dealing with "the general features of the Lake School;" and the remaining chapters, forming more than half the whole number and about four fifths of the volume, contain dissertations relating, severally, to "the Lake poets," represented by Wordsworth, Coleridge, and Southey; to the "classical school," represented by Gifford, Rogers, Campbell, and W. S. Landor; to the "romantic school," represented by Byron, Scott, and Moore; to the "Alexandrine poets," represented by Shelley and Keats, and so called because that noble pair made a certain "philosophy instinct with poetic life;" to the "art school," represented by Tennyson, and so called for pretty obvious reasons; to the "androtheist school," represented by Swinburne, and so called because the poet "embraces that form of pantheism which regards man as the highest unit of intelligence, and which rejects all belief in a future state;" to the "poets of the affections," represented by Montgomery and Longfellow; and to the "realistic school," represented by such an oddly-consorted pair as Crabbe and Browning. The volume, whether its author's views meet assent or dissent, cannot be read without advantage.

The late David Cox, whose faithful pictures of the English and Welsh rural scenery that he so dearly loved have again been raised in money value by the ordeal of a public auction, was an amiable and venerable man in private life. His biography, now written by Mr. Neal Solly, *A Memoir of the Life of David Cox* (Chapman and Hall), is a book in all respects gratifying to the reader of a healthy mind, whether or not addicted to the study of landscape art and its professors in our time. Lives of artists are somehow apt to be more interesting than lives of mere authors. It may be that the artist's daily converse with his family and friends is less likely to be tainted with the vices of pedantry and affectation, which beset what Mr. Hamerton calls "the intellectual life." No man of genius was ever more free from such faults, more simple, modest, and sincere, than the subject of this memoir, whose unassuming demeanour, through a long and tranquil course of artistic devotion to the service of Truth and Nature, with little care for the worldly prizes of success, was a noble example in this age of selfish ambitions. David Cox lived for his work, constantly practised for its own sake and that of his highest moral aims, not to win fame or fortune; and his labours were solaced, to his full content, by the wholesome indulgence of domestic and social affections. There is much in his character that reminds us of Wordsworth; and we almost fancy a resemblance in their portraits, as well as in the tone and habit of mind shown by their works. The incidents of David Cox's outward life, pleasantly told by his biographer, are not very remarkable; but, liking the man as well as the painter, we find a satisfaction in knowing how and where he lived, at Kennington, at Hereford, and latterly at Harborne, near his native town of Birmingham. We like to be told who were his intimate friends and companions in sketching excursions; what he did for the Old Water Colour Society; what moderate prices he got for his pictures; and how much he enjoyed himself yearly in a summer sojourn at Rowsley, or at Betws-y-Coed. These anecdotes of one who was a great man in his way, and a good man in the only true way, are related very agreeably by Mr. Neal Solly; but the volume also contains several chapters of commentary, descriptive and critical, upon the works of David Cox, both water-colour drawings and oil-paintings, with dated catalogues. Its illustrations consist of more than twenty photographs, heliotypes, and autotypes, representing some of his most characteristic works, and scenes associated with his personal existence. David Cox died at Harborne, in June, 1859, at the age of seventy-six, having continued his work to the last. His work was ever truthful, and this was his reward; for the poet and the artist will be sure to find, in the long run, that "Nature never did betray the heart that loved her."

Mild surprise is the first feeling excited—and it is very soon excited—by the *Memoir of Admiral Sir Edward Codrington*, edited by his daughter, Lady Bouchier, with portraits and other illustrations (Longmans). The surprise is not caused because, to use the opening words of the preface, "it may, perhaps, be thought late to publish now a memoir of Sir Edward Codrington, who has been dead nearly twenty-two years;" for, "it is never too late to mend," and a memoir of so fine, gallant, and gentleman-like an officer would be welcome even at the eleventh hour. The surprise is due to the fact that, at the end of the very same preface, the strange and contradictory assertion is made that, "I have not attempted to write a memoir." And the assertion is, unfortunately, quite true. Two huge and handsome volumes, "with portraits and other illustrations" of an extremely interesting, minute, and valuable kind, have been filled, and even overlaid, with epistolary and other literary contents which can by no stretch of terms be described as a "memoir." It is true that out of the mass of letters and other documents one might construct a "memoir" for oneself; but a mere reader does not expect to have that task to perform. All well-to-do Greeks have, probably, in their houses a portrait of Sir Edward Codrington, and, out of sheer gratitude, might feel called upon to wade through the enormous quantity of more or less biographical correspondence which his daughter has pitchforked into her voluminous compilation; but it is a question whether any Englishman or Englishwoman—though they may freely acknowledge, as they certainly ought to, Sir Edward Codrington's right to rank, and rank highly, amidst our naval heroes—will be induced to do what it has been supposed that a grateful Greek might do. On the other hand, this memoir—which is no memoir—has been so put together that it is possible to look into the table of contents and pick out from the various chapters just what anybody would desire to investigate; and, as there are, proverbially, as many ways of thinking as there are human beings, it is quite on the cards that the voluminousness which has been objected to will be better for the gallant Sir Edward's memory than a less diffuse, more artistic, and more continuously readable composition would have been. One thing is quite certain—it is almost impossible to open either of the two volumes at any page and fail to find something worthy of being read. A Codrington's estimate of a Nelson has quite a fascination attached to it; and, if such a sentiment may be expressed without any appearance of desecration, one feels that there were points of view from which Edward Codrington would have appeared the superior of Horatio Nelson.

Clever is the epithet applicable to *Political Portraits* (Strahan and Co.). The author's name is not given, but his political bias would be easily discernible, even if his sketches were not declared to have been, for the most part, reprinted from the *Daily News*. He adopts a tone of cool superiority, and describes our more or less eminent statesmen and politicians in a patronising manner that reminds one of a keeper describing the various denizens of the Zoological Gardens, or of a beefeater ex-

plaining the collection of curiosities deposited at the Tower, or even of an astronomer discoursing half contemptuously about some poor stars of the lesser magnitudes. Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright themselves are handled in a free and easy, semi-supercilious fashion; Mr. Disraeli meets with still more flippant and disrespectful treatment; and it may therefore be easily imagined what is the fare of Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Lowe, Mr. Ayrton, and such Conservatives as are depicted side by side with those minor Liberals. No doubt the nature of the case demanded, to a certain extent, this sort of manipulation; the essays were written for the columns of a newspaper, and must needs be striking before everything else, and must be invested with an air of infallible authority, if they were to impress the hasty reader. They may or may not contain true likenesses, the result of long, patient, accurate, and close study, but they are certainly very readable, and decidedly amusing; they are smart, brilliant, and pungent, and the pungency is due to the prevalence of a sardonic humour; and that is the humour which is now chiefly in vogue.

The hopeful view of Ireland's future which is taken—and taken partly on reasonable grounds—in *Ireland in 1872*, by James Macaulay, M.A., M.D., Edin. (Henry S. King and Co.), should of itself be sufficient to give the book a wide circulation. The author, unfortunately, seems to find a large part of his hopes upon a "conviction that the power of Popery, which has so long oppressed Ireland, is passing away;" and such a conviction will appear to a great many people to arise from a sanguine temperament rather than to rest upon indisputable evidence. However, the book contains a deeply-interesting account of what is called "a tour of observation" and some noteworthy "remarks on Irish public questions." There are twenty-six chapters, and each of them deserves to be attentively read; but special attention may be requested for the sixth, the thirteenth, and the twenty-first. The sixth "records a visit paid to Mr. Charles Bianconi, at Longfield, in Tipperary. His name is familiar in connection with the public car service which he organised and long conducted; but it may not be known to many English readers that he is proprietor of a fine estate, one of the best of landlords, a capital farmer, and a much-respected magistrate;" and, odd as it sounds, he is an immigrant in a land so sadly notorious for the number of its emigrants. The thirteenth gives a most seasonable history of the celebrated "O'Keeffe case;" and the twenty-first supplies some novel and desirable information concerning "the newspapers of Ireland" and Irish ballads and their authors, especially Thomas Davis, "whose poetry has been a power in Ireland, and still keeps up the enthusiasm of the National party."

A very charming little book is *Men of the Third Republic* (Strahan and Co.). It bears no author's name, but it has been written by one who appears to be particularly well informed, and who, at any rate, has the gift of telling in a very captivating style whatever, new or old, he has to tell. There are twenty-six biographical essays; each is complete in itself, and the volume may therefore be, without loss or disadvantage, read piecemeal at intervals of leisure; but the author's power of fascination is so great that it is extremely difficult to break off. Criticism is occasionally intermingled with mere biographical narrative and incidental anecdote, and the criticism elicits a high opinion of the critic's judgment, taste, and sympathetic and appreciative qualities. The portrait of M. Alexandre Dumas fils is drawn with wonderful freshness and placed in a very curious and unfamiliar light; and M. Victor Hugo is approached with a deference and a graceful tenderness which have not the least resemblance to subservience or affectation, but are almost pathetic in their cordiality, and which prove that the author has formed a proper estimate of an almost supernatural genius, and is not ashamed to express a correspondingly exalted loyalty.

Those who like the literary lump to be leavened by a modicum of the religious leaven may be safely recommended to take up *A Sail to Smyrna*, illustrated from original sketches by Mrs. Baillie (Longmans). It is "an Englishwoman's journal, including impressions of Constantinople, a visit to a Turkish harem, and a railway journey to Ephesus." A pleasant, cheerful narrative of a by no means sensational or adventurous trip is unpretentiously set forth. When Smyrna is reached the occasion is "improved," and the Apocalypse is called upon to furnish quotations; and the author's mind "was so filled with the scriptural associations of Ephesus" that extracts from the Acts of the Apostles are freely introduced, as if "we others" were benighted heathens and were not able to refer for ourselves, should memory fail us, to that rare and unattainable work. It is to be feared that "a visit to a Turkish harem" is an event less novel than it was some years ago, and is nowadays about as familiar to most of us as a visit to a "kettledrum" is, but the description given is unusually minute and very well done. Some miserable sinners may feel inclined to lament that a certain clergyman has by the fifteenth page recovered from the seasickness to which he had been providentially condemned at the commencement of the voyage, for he no sooner recovers than he begins to indulge in puns and riddles and jocose remarks, which the author is pleased to call wit. But, on the whole, the book is agreeable enough, and the illustrations are "according."

An anonymous author has published a curious work, called *Columbia* (Trübner and Co.). It seems to have been suggested by "The Coming Race." Not that there is any plagiarism or servile imitation, but that, in both cases, an ordinary human being becomes miraculously introduced to a world of extraordinary human beings, amongst whom an abnormal state of existence is maintained by the employment of highly-developed scientific inventions. A Mr. Smith, having embarked upon a vessel constructed according to the very newest and cleverest principles, is consequently shipwrecked, and is rescued from a subaqueous death to lead, for three years or so, a subaqueous life amongst people who fortunately speak English, but who in other respects do not resemble the majority of Englishmen. The story is very amusing, and is not devoid of satire directed against terrestrial customs; but if it was written with any distinct purpose of instruction or suggestion, that purpose is not easily discernible.

The highly-poetical subject of the occult virtues of gems has seldom been more gracefully treated than by Miss Helen Zimmern, in her *Stories in Precious Stones* (King and Co.). Miss Zimmern has availed herself of the pretty superstition which connects each gem with some peculiar virtue of which it is the emblem, some mystic property which it is considered to possess, and some month of the year especially under its influence. It is not too much to say of Miss Zimmern's twelve stories that they are themselves literary gems of very pure water—ingenious in conception, lofty and refined in sentiment, artistic in construction, and exceedingly well told.

The election for South Devon took place on Monday. Mr. John Carpenter Garnier, Conservative, was returned unopposed, in room of the late Mr. Kekewich, who had represented the constituency in the Conservative interest since 1858.

FREDERICK WILLIAM OF HESSE.

There are few of our readers who did not grieve over the untimely fate of this beloved little child when we heard of it three weeks ago. It was on Thursday, the 29th ult., that this sad disaster happened at the Grand Ducal Palace of Darmstadt. Three of the young children of Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse-Darmstadt were brought, as usual, into their mother's bed-room about eight o'clock in the morning. One of them, Prince Ernest, who is four years and a half old, ran into the adjoining bath-room, the window of which was open. The mother hastened after this child, leaving the other two children, Princess Victoria, aged ten, and Prince Frederick William, aged three. She could not have been absent half a minute, but in that brief space of time the little one had got to the bed-room window. He let fall a toy with which he was playing; and, in trying to recover it, fell out of the window. His sister was lying on the bed, and did not observe his position in time to save him. The noise of his fall recalled his terrified mother, but it was too late. The height from the window to the garden is about 24 ft. When the little boy was picked up it was found that he had no bones broken; but he had suffered a concussion of the brain. He died at eleven o'clock the same forenoon. The sorrow of the parents, but more especially of the mother (our English Princess Alice), has been witnessed with general sympathy. The funeral, on the next Saturday evening, was conducted privately, at the family mortuary chapel of the Rosenhöhe, near the palace. There was fourteen days' Court mourning, upon



THE LATE PRINCE FREDERICK WILLIAM OF HESSE DARMSTADT, YOUNGEST SON OF PRINCESS ALICE.

this occasion, at the Court of her Majesty Queen Victoria. Her Royal Highness Princess Alice Maud Mary, the Queen's third child, who is now thirty years of age, was married, on July 1, 1862, to Prince Louis (Frederick William Louis Charles), eldest son and heir to the Grand Duke Louis of Hesse-Darmstadt. They have had five or six children. The portrait of the little Prince whose death they now mourn is engraved by us from a photograph by Mr. Lachlan M'Lachlan, of Manchester.

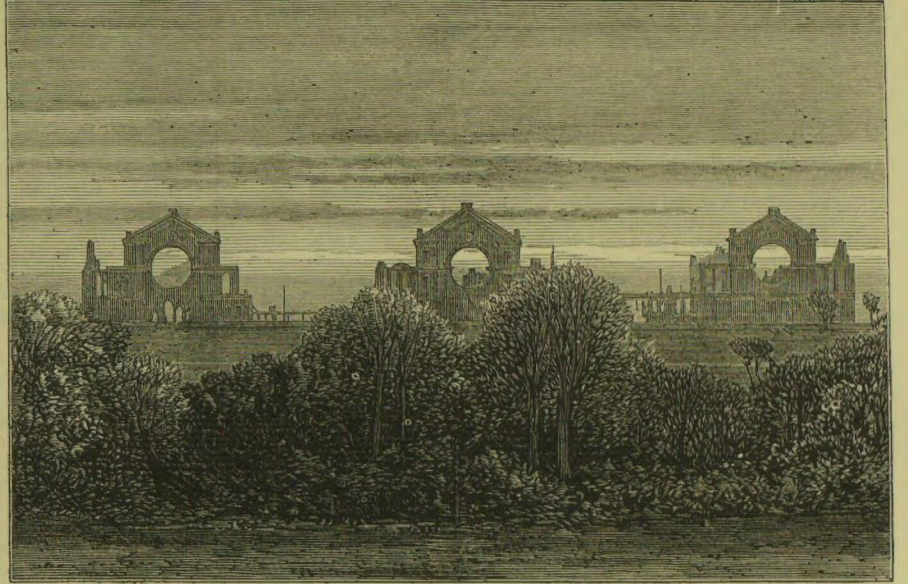
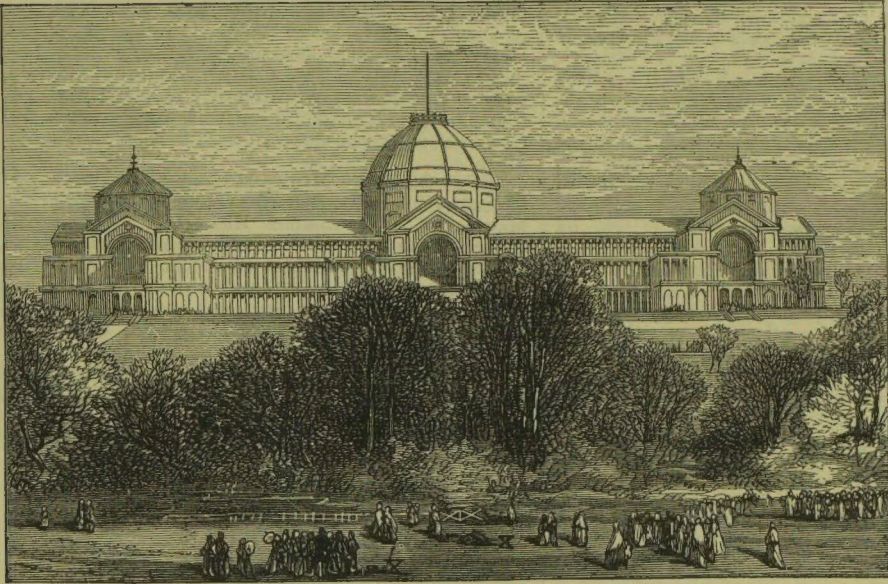
HOSPITAL SUNDAY.

Complete success attended the simultaneous collections of money, last Sunday, in the different churches and other places of worship in London, for the benefit of the hospitals and medical or surgical relief charities. It may here be of interest to state that, according to "Low's Handbook to the Charities of London for 1873," there are in the metropolis fifteen general hospitals, the last of which was founded in 1856, and the first in 1547. The following is a complete list of their titles, with the date of their foundation:—St. Bartholomew's, 1547; St. Thomas's, 1553; Westminster, 1719; Guy's, 1721; St. George's, 1733; London, 1740; Charing-cross, 1818; Royal Free, 1828; North London or University, 1833; Metropolitan Free, 1836; Middlesex, 1836; King's College, 1839; St. Mary's, 1851; Great Northern, 1856; West London, 1856. From an estimate made from the same volume by the editor, Mr. Charles Mackeson, and published by him in a paper on "Metropolitan Charities" in the "Companion to the British Almanack," we learn that in



HOSPITAL SUNDAY: THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES RECEIVED AT ST. PAUL'S BY THE LORD MAYOR.

BURNING OF THE ALEXANDRA PALACE.



BEFORE AND AFTER THE FIRE, VIEWED FROM THE SAME SPOT.

addition to the above there are upwards of 90 special hospitals, infirmaries, and surgical societies. Of these 10 are for children, 9 are lying-in hospitals, 6 for chest diseases, 5 for diseases of the eye, 5 for skin diseases, 5 for consumptive patients, 3 for epilepsy and paralysis, 3 for diseases of the feet, and the remainder for accidents, cancer, cripples, diseases of the teeth, diseases of the ear, fever, fistula, heart diseases, leg diseases, rupture, smallpox, spinal disease, stone, and diseases of the throat. There are, too, hospitals for special classes, such as for Jews, and women, children, soldiers, and sailors. Convalescent hospitals, in some cases attached to the great medical hospitals, exist in the neighbourhood of London, or in the seaside towns of Kent and Sussex.

The laudable proceeding of last Sunday was promoted by a committee at the Mansion House, over which the Lord Mayor, Sir Sydney Waterlow, presided, and which had secured the willing co-operation of nearly all the clergy and Dissenting ministers, including those of the Roman Catholic Church and those of the Jewish national communion. From several hundred pulpits, about the same hour, both morning and evening of that day, earnest preachers of religion were heard, in the name of one Almighty Father, pleading for the means of helping our afflicted brothers and sisters of mankind. The City of London, represented by its Lord Mayor, being the head and

centre of this movement, it was the services at St. Paul's Cathedral which naturally and properly engaged the largest share of public attention. The presence of Royalty among the worshippers there, as a fitting token of devout sympathy with the motive which inspired both clergy and people, and which had also brought the civic dignitaries to make an official appearance, was a gratifying incident of this occasion. It could not fail to remind the Londoners of another day, in February last year, when the Queen's eldest son, the heir-apparent to this kingdom, came to that sacred building, with our Sovereign Lady his mother, and with the beloved Princess his wife, accompanied by their children and others of the Royal family, to render solemn and heartfelt thanks for the signal mercy of God in granting him a new lease of life and health, after an all but mortal sickness. Herein was felt that touch of our common nature which indeed makes the whole world kin. Disease and the danger of premature death, without distinction of persons in the most exalted or in the humblest social rank, may equally visit the *pauperum tabernas, regumque turres*; and the distinct acknowledgment of this frailty in the bodily and mental constitution of our race is favourable to the sentiment of a genuine philanthropy, as well as to Christian faith.

The morning service at St. Paul's, held under the dome,

attracted a very large congregation, amongst whom were the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duke of Edinburgh. The Royal pew was erected for this occasion on the north-west side of the central passage from the nave to the choir, so that the reading-desk was between the Royal pew and the pulpit. The Dean, the Very Rev. Dr. Church, was present, but was not able, from recent illness, to take any part in the service. Prayers were read by the Rev. J. Lupton, the Lessons by the Rev. W. H. Milman, the Litany by the Rev. W. H. Milman and the Rev. W. J. Hall, the first part of the Communion Service by Bishop Claughton and the remainder by the Bishop of London, who preached the sermon. The service commenced at ten o'clock, but it was not until after the morning prayers and the Litany that the Royal pew was occupied. At the conclusion of the Litany, the clergy walked down the centre of the nave to the west doors, and there, with the Lord Mayor and members of the Corporation, in their robes, and attended by the macebearer, received the Princess and the Princes, and preceded them in their passage through the nave. The Lord Mayor and members of the Corporation took their seats in the choir, and seats were reserved behind the Royal pew for the Lady Mayoress and a number of ladies, who entered in advance of the civic and Royal procession. When the Royal party had taken their seats the Communion



INTERIOR VIEW OF THE RUINS.

Service was proceeded with, and was followed by the sermon. The Bishop selected as his text the 35th verse of the 13th chapter of the Gospel of St. John, "By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another." He made a fervent appeal to professing Christians to manifest the truth of the Gospel by their self-sacrificing liberality. The sermon led to the collection, which was quietly and expeditiously performed. After the benediction the Lord Mayor and members of the Corporation conducted the Royal party to the west doors, and the congregation dispersed, save those who remained to partake of the Communion. The amount of the collection was £470. At the afternoon service in the cathedral, Bishop Claughton was the preacher, before a large congregation in the dome area. He took for his text the 19th and 20th verses of the 16th chapter of St. Luke's Gospel, "There was a certain rich man, which was clothed in purple and fine linen, and fared sumptuously every day; and there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, which was laid at his gate, full of sores."

At Westminster Abbey, in the morning, the sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon Prothero, who took his text from the 21st verse of the 4th chapter of the First Epistle of St. John—"And this commandment have we from Him, that he who loveth God love his brother also." The afternoon service was attended by the Lord Mayor; the preacher was the Rev. R. Duckworth. The two collections amounted to £272. The Archbishop of Canterbury preached at Lambeth church; the Rev. Canon Birch at the Chapel Royal, St. James's; and the Rev. Daniel Moore at the Chapel Royal, Whitehall. The collections at the Temple Church produced £322. The aggregate sum realised by all the collections is many thousand pounds. A donation of £100 was sent by the Queen.

In the design for an Illustration of this Hospital Sunday, which forms the Engraving on our front page, a poor convalescent, who has lately obtained relief from his suffering and from the peril of his life by the instrumentality of one of the London hospitals, is seen to put his mite of a thank-offering into the collector's plate as he sits in church after the sermon when the collector goes round. Who does not owe a thank-offering for one mercy or another?

BURNING OF THE ALEXANDRA PALACE.

This real public disaster, which took place on Monday week, an hour or two after noon, was the subject of two Illustrations in our last. We now present several additional Illustrations—namely, a view of the conflagration, from a sketch made at the time by Mr. Edward Goodall; an interior view of the ruins, in which the ground is shown thickly strewn with fragments of ironwork fallen from the roof; and two views taken by a photographer (Mr. W. N. Thompson, of Roman-road, Barnsbury), which show the palace, from the same point, as it appeared before and after the fire. It is satisfactory to notice that the enterprising proprietors are not daunted by their severe misfortune. They have this week been making successful efforts to draw large numbers of visitors to the Alexandra Park, where much still remains for enjoyment in fine weather. The rhododendron show, which is open from day to day; the grand cricket match and a balloon ascent by Mr. Coxwell on Monday, and the performances of the Company's band, in the detached banqueting hall, a few hundred yards from the palace, with the archery and other sports or exercises, down to the swings and roundabouts, have furnished plenty of amusement for many thousands of people. There was a special novelty introduced on Monday evening, a pyrotechnic illumination of the ruins of the palace, which is an idea of bold and heroic spirits that should command our respect. The great horse show, to be held next week, is likely to attract multitudes from different parts of the country as well as from London. For the relief of those unfortunate persons, female stallkeepers and others, who are distressed by the loss of their employment and property in the late fire, a subscription has been opened, while the directors of the Alexandra Park Company have voted a sum of money to give them present aid. The directors, also, of the Crystal Palace Company have generously appointed next Monday's profits at Sydenham to be applied for the benefit of those suffering from the disaster to the rival establishment at Muswell-hill. Another death is reported, that of Thomas Lerner, foreman of the smiths, who was struck by a falling fragment from the roof of the dome. He died on Friday week at the Great Northern Hospital.

THE CITY AND THE SHAH.

The address presented by the Corporation of London to the Shah of Persia at Guildhall, on his visit to the City yesterday evening, was inclosed in a beautiful casket. This is of oblong octagon form, supported at each corner by figures of kneeling camels. On one side is a panel, with the arms of the Shah in coloured enamel; on the other side is the inscription. At each end are copies, in Persian character, of his Majesty's autograph and titles. The ornament is of a style purely Persian, in which gold piercings are relieved with coloured enamel backgrounds; and the casket is further decorated with bouquets of pearls and precious stones. The lid is surmounted by the civic arms. The whole is supported by a base of Portesco marble, resting on a blue velvet plinth. This casket was made by Messrs. Hancocks and Co, of Bruton-street, by whom also the design was prepared.

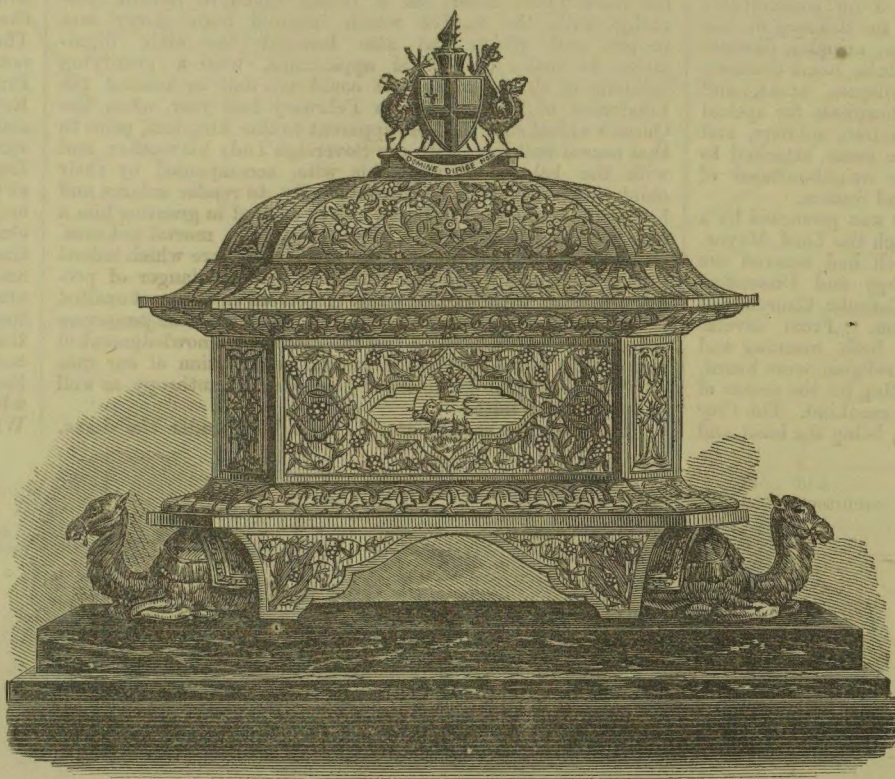
At a meeting of the Victoria (Philosophical) Institute on Monday Mr. Phené read a paper on "Prehistoric Traditions in connection with Sun and Serpent Worship," illustrated with many diagrams. After some introductory remarks, he stated that wherever sun and serpent worship had existed, from Mexico to Asia, there were with it traditions of the Creation, the Fall, the first fratricide, and the promised exculpation, which, notwithstanding perversion, and even inversion, too, were found at times and in places when and where intercommunication could not have existed; such evidently had a common and specific origin, the indelible remembrance of which must have been conveyed to the extremes of the earth in primitive times by emigration. A discussion followed.

The Extra Supplement.

THE SHAH OF PERSIA.

His Majesty the Shah of Persia arrived in England on Wednesday, landing at Dover, after his passage across the Channel from Ostend, and proceeding to London by the South Eastern Railway. He has entered upon residence in the apartments provided for him in Buckingham Palace.

We give a portrait of this Asiatic Monarch, which has been specially engraved for our Extra Supplement. Nasr-ood-Deen is the fourth Sovereign of the Kadjar dynasty, which conquered Persia in 1794, and which is of Turkish race, from the shores of the Caspian. The first Kadjar Shah of Persia was Aga Mahomed Khan, a celebrated eunuch, whose skill and valour in war, and his ferocious cruelty to his vanquished enemies, made him the terror of Central Asia. He was murdered, in 1797, by a conspiracy among his own servants; and his successor was his nephew, Futeh Ali Shah, who got himself into a war with Russia. He reigned thirty-seven years, and was succeeded in 1835 by Mahomed Shah, his grandson, supported by Russia and England in a rivalry of good offices to gain more influence over Persia. It is worthy of remark that a young English officer, Lieutenant Henry Rawlinson, now General Sir Henry Rawlinson, K.C.B., rendered great service to the present Shah's father, in the reorganisation of the Persian army, nearly thirty-five years ago. But when Mahomed Shah, a short time afterwards, laid siege to Herat and threatened the conquest of Afghanistan, the utmost efforts of British diplomacy were used to keep him back. Upon his death, in 1848, he was succeeded by the present Shah, who was then eighteen years of age, and was living at Tabreez, as Governor of the province of Azerbaijan. His reign has not been free from troubles, partly due, it is said, to the wrong counsels of his mother, who died since he set forth on this journey to Europe; and he was engaged in brief hostilities with Great Britain, upon the question of Herat, at the commencement of 1857; but, in the



CASKET OF CITY ADDRESS TO THE SHAH.

opinion of Mr. R. G. Watson, author of "The History of Persia," his Majesty Nasr-ood-Deen has of late years been trying to do his best for the improvement of Persia, a country which has long suffered the most grievous misrule. It is to be hoped that he will learn some useful lessons in his tour through Europe.

The following is a list, supplied by the Foreign Office, of the persons who accompany his Majesty to England:—

Princes and Ministers.—His Highness Hadji Meerza Hussein Khan, Grand Vizier (Sadr Azem) and Minister of War (Sepeh Salar) (four servants); his Royal Highness Prince Abdul-Samed Meerza, Az-ed-Dowleh, half-brother of the Shah (one servant); his Royal Highness Prince Ali Koollee Meerza, Itizad-es-Sultaneh, Minister of Public Instruction, son of Fath-Ali Shah, and grand-uncle of the King (one servant); his Royal Highness Prince Sultan Morad Meerza, Hissam-es-Sultaneh, uncle of the King and late Governor-General of Khorassan (one servant); his Royal Highness Prince Feerooz Meerza, Nosret-ed-Dowleh, uncle of the King, late Minister of War (one servant); his Royal Highness Prince Imam Koollee Meerza, Imad-ed-Dowleh, grandson of Fath-Ali Shah, late Governor-General of Kermanshah (one servant); his Excellency Yahya Khan, Moatemed-el-Mulk, Minister of the Palace, brother of the Grand Vizier, and married to the King's sister (one servant); his Excellency Allah Koollee Khan, Eelganee, Governor of Kazveen (one servant); his Excellency Mahomed Raheem Khan, Ala-ed Dowleh, Master of the Ceremonies (one servant); his Excellency Hassan Ali Khan, Minister of Public Works (Vizir-i-Fevayed), late Persian Minister and Envoy in Turkey, and formerly Persian Minister in London and Paris (one servant); his Excellency Meerza Malcolm Khan, Nazim-el-Mulk, Persian Minister Plenipotentiary and Envoy Extraordinary in England (three servants); his Excellency Ali Riza Khan, Azd-el-Mulk, Keeper of the Royal Seal (one servant).

Officers of the Shah's Household.—Dr. Tholozan, Chief Physician to his Majesty the Shah (one servant); Dr. Dickson, Physician to his Majesty's Legation in Persia (one servant); Meerza Ali Khan, Moonshee-i-Hoozoor, Confidential Secretary to the Shah (one servant); Meerza Ali Nekkee, Hakeem-el-Memalik, Deputy Master of the Ceremonies (one servant); Mahomed Hassan Khan, Sane-ed-Dowleh, Deputy Master of the Ceremonies.

Aides-de-Camp.—Meerza Reza Khan, Meerza Ahmed Khan. Peeshkhidmets (Chamberlains), Personal Attendants of his Majesty.—Meerza Mahomed Khan, Ameen-i-Khalvet; Mehdee Koollee Khan; Agha Vejeeh; Agha Reza, Akass-Bashee, Chief Photographer; Mahomed Ali Khan, Ameen-es-Sultaneh,

Keeper of the Royal Robes (one servant); Sultan Hussein Meerza (one servant); Ferrook Khan; Gholam Hussein Khan (called Moochoolee Khan) (one servant); Mahomed Hassan Khan (called Mohakkak); Jaffer Koollee Khan (page).

Generals (Serteeps).—Sultan Oveis Meerza, Itisham-ed-Dowleh, Serteep first class, son of Prince Farhad Meerza (one servant); Nasrullaah Khan, Nassr-el-Mulk, half-brother of the Grand Vizier (one servant); Ali Koollee Khan, Mokhber-ed-Dowleh, Director of Persian Telegraphs, Serteep first class (one servant); Hassan Ali Khan, Serteep second class (one servant); Mahomed Bakir Khan, Shujah-es-Sultaneh, Serteep second class (one servant); Meerza Kahraman, Ameen-i-Lashker (one servant); Meriman Khan (one servant); General Gasteiger, Austrian officer in the service of the Persian Government.

Other Officials.—Meerza Mikhail Khan (brother of Meerza Malcolm Khan); M. Delouche (Frenchman employed by Meerza Malcolm Khan); Ibrahim Khan; M. Richard (teacher of French in the Teheran College); Meerza Ahmed Khan.

Upper Servants.—Agha Ibraheem, Ameen-e-Sultan (confidential servant of the King and chief abdash); Hajee Mahomed Khan, chief Kahvechee (in charge of the Shah's jewelled pipes and coffee service); Deh-Bashee (Agha Reza) and Meerza Abdulla (Shah's valets).

Under Servants.—Agha Mohamed Ali, Agha Hussein Ali, Agha Baghir (assistant abdars); Jabbar (assistant Kahvechee); Mahomed Kassim Beg (first groom); Agha (second groom); Morad Ali (stable groom); Hajee Hyder (the Shah's barber).

THE VIENNA EXHIBITION.

(From our Special Correspondent.)

VIENNA, Monday, June 16.

The comments of the newspapers, with the large number of visitors which the Palace in the Prater managed to secure on Whit Monday, when the weather proved propitious and the admission had been reduced to half a florin, have induced the

Imperial Commission to lower the price of entry on two other days in the week, besides the Sunday, when the admission has always been fixed at fifty kreutzers. As yet the result has been scarcely so satisfactory as might have been anticipated. The weather has, unfortunately, returned to its former unsettled state, and strangers are not yet flocking to Vienna in such multitudes as were looked for. These circumstances provoke speculation as to the financial loss which the Exhibition is likely to involve, and how this can best be obviated or moderated in some degree. During the last few days a rumour has been current—which I give for what it may be worth—to the effect that Baron Schwarz-Senborn, the organiser and general director of the Exhibition, proposes to close it, as originally contemplated, during the winter months, but to open it again in the spring of next year. It is suggested, indeed, that exhibitors will not consent to the goods "exposed" by them remaining within the building after the date originally fixed upon for its close. But it is replied that some will consent, if others will not, and that the latter will be only too happy to come back again, like swallows, in the spring; while the places of the absent can be supplied, without difficulty, by new arrivals, and the Exhibition can by these means be rendered continuous for any length of time to come. This may possibly be true with respect to certain exhibitors, to whom the Palace in the Prater is simply a huge bazaar where customers are secured for their wares; but it will certainly not apply to that other class who look rather to honour than to profit, and whose contributions are such marvellous chefs-d'œuvre of art as must form the most attractive feature of any international exhibition.

An attentive examination of the contents of the Vienna Industrial Palace conveys the impression that, admirable as in many respects is the display made by other nations, yet in much that relates to actual matters of taste France will deservedly carry off the palm. In the wealth of her display, alike in bronzes and metal ornaments generally, in tapestry, faience, room decorations, sumptuous artistic furniture, and all that immediately relates to the feminine toilette, she excels even the grand show which she made in 1867 on her own soil. I must refrain, however, at present from attempting a description of these manifold examples of luxuriant fancy, refined taste, intelligent workmanship, and patient industry. Until another week has elapsed the finishing touches will hardly be given to the entire French display, which forms a complete exhibition of itself, all being alike admirably classified and arranged with exquisite taste.

Turning aside therefore from France we pass into Switzerland through a handsome arched entrance surmounted by the white cross of the Helvetic Confederation, and hung with maroon-coloured curtains, upon which the armorial bearings of the different cantons are displayed. The transverse gallery, appropriated to the Swiss exhibitors, is divided off into separate courts, which are decorated with statuettes of national celebrities. The first Swiss court is gallantly devoted to silks for ladies' dresses, together with sashes and ribbons of the most delicate as well as of the gayest hues, round which the fair sex congregate with manifest delight. Just inside this court stand the statuettes of Frisching and Hollwyl, clad in coats of mail, and contrasting strangely with the more modern figures of Haller and Frickart, placed in front of them. Lace and muslin fill the second court, with a few pianos, at which dreamy-looking young Germans, with long hair, pass their afternoons playing waltzes and overtures—eagerly listened to by admiring fraulein—under pretence of trying the keys. The next division has been reserved for the clocks and watches, mathematical, astronomical, and surgical instruments. Among other objects of curiosity to be found here is an apparatus for transfusing blood into the veins of sinking patients, accompanied by a chalk drawing, to show how the operation is performed. Thermometers and barometers, saccharometers and telegraphic apparatus, fill a whole suite of cases; then come the mathematical instruments, in which a Geneva manufacturer stands prominent; and a handsome show of penknives with pretty handles of ivory, horn, and pearl, many of them tastefully inlaid with silver.

The watches, however, are the most attractive objects here. There are tiny ones encircled with pearls and diamonds,

and larger ones, in the shape of hearts, with miniature portraits of Kaiser Franz painted on their cases; while others have outspread eagles engraved on their covers, and others, again, have simply rough gold backs. There are also some splendid chronometers and compasses, and several curious electric clocks, well worthy of notice, in this division. Among the jewellery shown by a few Geneva houses we find imitations of the Greek, Egyptian, Assyrian, Byzantine, and Hebrew styles, the patterns being much the same as those produced by a well-known London firm.

The next section is devoted to straw hats and bonnets, and linen and cotton goods. The entrances are adorned with statuettes of Steiger and Manuel, Nägler and Rubenberg. We notice a bronze reduction of the group designed for the national monument at Geneva, a copy of which is placed in the Rotunda of the Industrial Palace. In front of it is a spirited terra-cotta group, representing an African lion devouring an unhappy doe, which lies panting with agony and fright in his mighty paws.

We pass through the gallery erected in the courtyard which separates Switzerland from France. Here are stoves, cooking apparatus, maps, chemical products, and a few implements of war. We now reach the elaborately-carved Swiss chalet raised in the centre of the courtyard, faced by a pretty garden. Within the chalet are some charming specimens of wood carving, flower-stands, and vases, some of the former composed of cups perched upon palm-trees, at the base of which children are playing; caskets with flowers and fruit carved upon their panels; a handsome escritoire and numerous inlaid chairs and tables; and clocks surrounded with figures of goats, cattle, and the like. One clock has its dial carved on a rock, on which reclines a hunter with a dead chamois thrown over his shoulder, while from above a hawk pounces down on a hapless Alpine coney, and below the clock is an unfortunate partridge struggling in the clutches of wily Master Reynard. There are, besides, looking-glass frames and ink-stands of ingenious make; and fans most wonderfully carved, together with statuettes of Bernese bulls, Alpine goats, St. Bernard dogs, and the conventional Helvetian lion and various ludicrous figures of swine, with satirical hits at priests. We observe, too, the miniature Swiss chalets, with Swiss peasants in all sorts of attitudes; the rafts gliding down rivers of glass, and fowls pecking imaginary seed, all which are of various degrees of merit. These fill the four rooms on the ground floor, those above being devoted to a display of educational books, maps, drawings, and the like.

Portugal has very little to show, but it has something; whereas its neighbour, Spain, has nothing whatever. Entering the Portuguese gallery from the nave, the first cases one sees contain a few specimens of filigree jewellery, with a collection of crosses, medals, and general decorations, followed by others in which silks, cotton stuffs, printed handkerchiefs, and hats are displayed, and some matting, basketwork, and samples of marble. There is also a case of wretched glass, and one of still more wretched china. In a corner, stuck against the wall and lying upon a table covered with green baize, are specimens of printing, books, and binding. Photographs of Portuguese scenery, buildings, bridges, and the like abound in this gallery, which really contains few other objects worth looking at. The chief of these is undoubtedly a case containing a curious collection of small wax Portuguese figures, including fishermen and market-women, monks, friars, and priests, peasants, ladrones, and porters, in every form of hat, jacket, and pantaloons; in high boots, low shoes, and barefooted; some smoking and others taking snuff; all perfectly at their ease, and admirably lifelike. Close to this case is a little carved wooden model of the tomb of Don John I. of Portugal, at the convent of Batalha, where he was born in 1434; and a Saracenic pillar with blue and gold capitals, sent as a specimen of the Moorish architecture of Portugal.

The Swedish section is close to that of Holland's colonial possessions. During the past month the Swedish display has been rendered complete. A series of trophies, composed of iron bars and rods arranged in pyramids, with huge blocks of iron-ore piled round their base, stands at the entrance to the Swedish court. Its most remarkable feature is the collection of skilfully modelled lifelike figures, decked out in the picturesque vestments peculiar to the different provinces of the great Northern kingdom, which, arranged in effective-looking groups, are posted at intervals down the centre of the gallery. Among them are several pairs of flaxen-headed Scandinavian lovers, either pleading, flirting, leave-taking, or going through the ceremony of betrothal; a domestic group, with the father dandling his little daughter, while the mother looks admiringly on; a good young maiden of Skåne, in her gorgeous Sunday attire, on her way home from church; some damsels, in elaborate metal coronals of semi-barbaric magnificence; and a sledge-driver, who has pulled up his reindeer to have a moment's chat with a neighbour, met while scudding in his large snow-shoes over the broad white waste.

Denmark is installed in a transverse gallery, parallel to that occupied by Sweden, with its picturesque costume-groups and its affluence of metal ores. The Danish section is entered through a semi-classic, ornate portal, decorated with reproductions of some of Thorwaldsen's most admired works—his graceful Hebe and no less graceful Ganymede, his charming Venus with the apple, his sitting Cupid with the lyre, his Mercury with the pandean pipes, and the shepherd-boy with the dog.

It has been decided at a meeting held at the Mansion House to reopen the baths and washhouses in Goulston-square, Whitechapel. Liberal subscriptions have been announced towards the £6000 required.

At Torquay, on Saturday, the bronze medals of the Royal Humane Society were presented to Mr. March Phillips, a county magistrate and Mr. Huntley Cooper, for bravery in rescuing a child from drowning in the sea. Mr. Phillips, who was the first to plunge into the sea, is eighty-two years of age.

A handsome telescope, awarded by the Emperor of Germany, has been presented by Mr. D'Oursley, collector of her Majesty's customs at West Hartlepool, to Captain Dobson, master of the Landsend, and £5 each in cash to two of the crew of the vessel, for gallantly saving the lives of the crew of the German schooner Dr. Stronsberg, during a gale of wind in the German Ocean, on Nov. 2, 1872, at great peril to their own lives.

Mr. M. T. Bass, the senior member for Derby, has supplemented his many presentations to the town by causing to be constructed, at his own expense, two spacious and beautiful swimming-baths for the free use of men and boys. The hon. gentleman has also offered to contribute £5000 towards the erection of a new free library, provided the town will find a site.

The fourth annual demonstration of the Durham Miners' Association was held last Saturday on the raceground at Durham, and was attended by a gathering of miners, their wives and families, computed at 70,000 persons. The men, in one of their resolutions, stated that, "In looking back at the past year's doings we think there is great cause for thankfulness in the constant and continued peace which has reigned among us."

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

*All communications relating to this department of the P per should be addressed "To the Editor of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS," &c., and have the word "Chess" legibly written on the outside of the envelope.

JK NE SAYS PAR.—It is not practicable for us to spare room for the purpose. You can procure the "Chess-Player's Companion," which contains instructions and examples on the subject of playing at all kinds of odds, from the Queen to the Pawn and move. DRAGON.—We can give you no information regarding the Austrian chess magazine. No copy of it has reached us for some weeks. You had better apply to the editor, Mr. Hermann Lehner, Ungarstr. 58, Wien.

H. L. and T. M.—The Philadelphia Chess Record is a marvel of cheapness. The annual subscription is not more than six shillings, postage included. You must apply to Mr. Reichheim, the conductor, for further particulars.

THE VIENNA EXHIBITION AND THE VIENNA CHESS CLUB.—As complaints have reached us of the difficulty there is in finding the locale of the Vienna Chess Club, it may be serviceable to many of our readers to know that the address is Elizabeth-Strasse, No. 7. C. E. R., Malvern.—Have we not already published it? If not, it shall be given shortly. EDWARD LEES.—I. We cannot spare time to answer questions by post. 2. In the position submitted neither party can win.

F. N.—With very much pleasure, if you will take the trouble to send the positions on diagrams.

JUNIOR.—Yes; an exceedingly safe and good defence—perhaps the best at the second player's command.

I. JANION.—Be good enough, when you write to us, to write distinctly. We cannot at all understand what is meant by "Limerick's Problem," or by the words "at thirte."

G. H. G.—The game shall be examined and reported on very soon; as to the score, that has already been given by us.

H. HEBERT, GEO. COLLINS.—They shall receive due attention.

ST. P. of St. Petersburg.—Your solution of Problem No. 1527 is perfectly correct.

S. H. of Nottingham.—The game is marked for insertion, and we shall be glad to receive some more games from the same quarter.

T. M.—About all.—The first has been the second shall be published.

D. C. L.—We are told that the club in question is defunct, so far as chess is concerned, but that it survives as a whist club. Your best course will be to join the St. George's, 20, King-street, St. James's.

THE CORRECT SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1528 has been received from A. B. C.—M. D.—Caroline—Ben. Block—Sigmund—Eton—Magnus—Perry—W. D.—Ehony—Sigmund—Felix—W. H. W.—Touchstone—Percy—P. B. A.—W. G. E.—Pip—Box and Cox—Enclid—R. W. D.—R. B. Seale—H. Ree—M. F.—City Bank—Ferdinand and Miranda—Omieron—R. E.—Como—Lionel—Marian—Ball of Oby (?).—G. Maule—L. (something illegible. Why do not correspondents to a public paper write plainly?)—I. Janion—W. Furnival—W. B. Wood—S. G. D.—Argus—T. W. Morris—A. Wood—H. B. E.—Long Tom—S. T. H.—J. W. of Canterbury—L. L.—Bau—Je ne sais pas—J. Sowden—W. Airy—F. H. of Monmouth—Lucy—E. Frau of Lyons—W. V. G. D.—R. D. T.—Stoney—Andrew—Puzzled—Clive Crooksey—Bost—Randolph—E. W. E.—Civis—Manfred and Man Friday—Cheops—The Shah—Robert and Robertson—Willy—Mrs. Partington—Maria—G. and W. Selwyn—H. Sheldon—F. R. A.—E. Aram—C. M.—Henry A. Lewis.

THE CORRECT SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1529 has been received from the Great Mogul—L. S. D.—Philip—E. M. N.—James—Timon—J. Allaire—D. A. Dublin—P. K.—Ali Baba—Sim—Ty Agau—F. D.—P. B. S.—Donchurch—F. W. of Canterbury—Le Blac—D. M. G.—The Artful—Fag—W. P. K.—Tam O'Shanter—R. B. O.—Tom Bowling—Maude and Alfred—P. G. D.—S. T. H. of Faversham—Omega—Eldon—M. P.—G. M. B.—Fan—Davy Jones—Beta—H. B.—Tom Tiddler—Merry Andrew—Ralph and Laura—Egbert—Sim—Roberto—E. H.—W. B. K.—Max—Lovel—L. S. Marshall—Drax—B. J. of Evesham—Oliver—Peon—F. C. S.—W. B. E.—J. N.—P. N. C.—Charlotte—W. F.—W. G. L.—George Hamilton—Old Drury—Fred Hall—Biceps—S. Salmon—J. B. ewer—P. S. Hunt—The Rectory—H. Sargent—M. Vile—Adela—H. Pope—Sara Cross—Allen—D. D.—The Trumvirate—S. B. K.—Winny.

*We have not room this week to answer a tithe of the Chess Correspondence on our table.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1528.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. B to K 6th P to Q B 4th 2. Q to Q 6th, 3. Kt mates. If he make any other move White mates on the move.
2. Q to Q B 4th (ch) Anything
3. Q or Kt gives mate.

If R or P take B White gives mate on the move. If Black play Q to K B sq, the reply is 2. Kt to K 3rd (ch), and mate next move. If he play R to K 2nd, or R to K sq, then follow

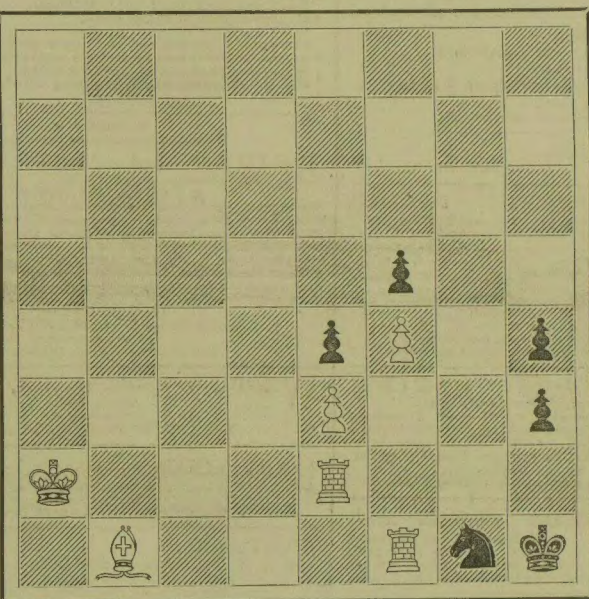
SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1529.

WHITE. BLACK. WHITE. BLACK.
1. R to Q B 8th P moves 3. B to K 6th K moves
2. R to Q B 2nd K moves 4. R gives mate.

PROBLEM NO. 1530.

By Mr. J. PIERCE, M.A.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

CHESS BY CORRESPONDENCE.

The following lively Game was played by correspondence between Mr. E. THOROLD and Mr. J. HALFORD.—(Petroff's Defence.)

BLACK (Mr. H.) WHITE (Mr. T.)
1. P to K 4th P to K 4th
2. Kt to K B 3rd Kt to K B 3rd
3. Kt takes P P to Q 3rd
4. Kt to K B 3rd Kt takes P
5. P to Q 4th P to Q 4th
6. B to Q 3rd Kt to Q B 3rd
7. Castles Kt to K 3rd
8. P to Q 4th B to K 3rd
9. P takes P B takes P
10. Kt to Q B 3rd Kt takes Kt
11. P takes Kt Kt to Q 2nd

Mr. Thorold loses a point by this feeble move. He should have castled at once.

12. R to Q Kt sq Castles, Q side

A fatal miscalculation—surprising to occur in a correspondence game, and to be made by so able a player.

13. P to Q B 4th B takes Kt

14. Q takes B P to K Kt 3rd

Game played by letter between Mr. CHARLETON, of Newcastle-on Tyne, and Mr. FISHER, of Malvern.—(Evans's Gambit.)

WHITE (Mr. C.) BLACK (Mr. F.)

1. P to K 4th P to K 4th

2. Kt to K B 3rd P to Q B 3rd

3. B to Q B 4th B to Q B 4th

4. P to Q Kt 4th B takes Kt P

5. P to Q B 3rd B to Q B 4th

6. P to Q 4th P takes P

7. P takes P B to Q Kt 3rd

8. Castles P to Q 3rd

9. P to Q 5th Kt to Q R 4th

10. B to Q Kt 2nd K to Kt 2nd

11. B to Q 3rd Castles

12. Kt to Q B 3rd Kt to K Kt 3rd

13. Kt to K 2nd P to Q B 4th

14. R to Q B sq B to Q B 2nd

15. Q to Q 2nd P to K B 3rd

16. K to R sq R to Q Kt sq

17. P to K 4th An imprudent move. His aim should have been the advance of the K B Pawn.

18. P to K R 5th P to Q Kt 4th

19. P takes Kt P to Q B 5th

This also strikes us as an inconsiderate step. He ought to have retreated the attacked Bishop.

WHITE (Mr. C.) BLACK (Mr. F.)

19. P takes P (ch) K takes P

20. P takes P (ch) K takes P

21. Q takes P R to K R sq

22. Kt from B 3rd to Kt to Q B 5th

Q 4th

23. B to Q R sq P to K B 4th

24. P takes P

Why not have played Q to K Kt 3rd attacking and defending also?

24. K to Kt sq (dis. ch)

25. K to Kt sq Q to K R 5th

26. P to K B 4th B to Q sq

27. R to K B 3rd

Simply suicidal; while by the obvious move of Kt to K Kt 3rd he would have had a tolerably secure position.

27. K to B 2nd Q to K R 8th (ch)

28. P to K Kt 3rd Q to K 5th (ch)

The crowning blunder! This is in a game by correspondence!

29. B takes P (ch) and White resigns.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

Racing of a very fair character has been seen this week at Windsor, under the able management of the Messrs. Frail, and Happy Hampton has held its annual carnival; but the sport at neither place deserves any special chronicle, and we shall best consult the interests of our readers by passing a few comments on the Ascot Cup, the New Stakes, and other races at the Royal meeting, which we were unable to review in our last issue.

It was generally expected that Cremorne would win the Cup, as he is a Derby winner of more than average excellence, and odds of 6 to 4 were freely laid upon him. Thorn, however, who had beaten Hannah pretty easily in the race for the Gold Vase on Tuesday, had a number of friends who supported him with some spirit at 4 to 1, and Flageolet was backed by those who remembered how he defeated Doncaster in the Grand Prix de Paris. Corisande and Revigny figured at only outside prices, although, as regards the former, a startling rumour was in circulation that she had been tried to be 17 lb. better than her stable companion. In the forlorn hope that Cremorne might turn out a non-stayer in a fast-run race, Hannah and Eole the Second were specially started by their owners to make a pace; and these tactics were so effectually carried out by the former that the whole field, with the exception of Cremorne, was beaten to a perfect standstill nearly half a mile from home, the only two who were privileged—at a respectful distance—to see the "non-stayer" romp past the winning-post being Flageolet and Revigny, who rolled home, dead beaten, about eight and ten lengths respectively in the rear. Victory in this race has not been achieved so easily since the days of Gladiateur, and Cremorne's must undoubtedly be considered a very great performance, as the field was one of more than average excellence, and Flageolet, especially, is a really good colt over a distance of ground. Cremorne will now have to carry 10 lb. extra in the Goodwood Cup, and if he can manage to defeat Marie Stuart, who has no penalty for her Oaks victory, he will conclusively settle all questions as to the comparative Derby form of this and last year. The New Stakes, which is the most important two-year-old race run at Ascot, was secured by M. Lefevre's Ecossais, a magnificent colt by Blair Athol out of Margery Daw (the dam of See-Saw), bought at one of the Middle Park sales last year for 1150 gs. There seems to be a certain amount of doubt whether his fore legs are sufficiently strong to stand the severe strain of a preparation for the Derby, but he is certain, we think, to win all his two-year-old engagements, and even thus early we venture to predict his easy victory in the Middle Park Plate, whatever his penalty, as we are satisfied, from the style in which he carried off his maiden race from an excellent field, that he is one of the best two-year-olds that has been seen in England for a very long time. Among the older horses Winslow again distinguished himself, by giving 10 lb. to the speedy Drummond, over six furlongs, and running him to three quarters of a length; whilst Prince Charlie, later in the afternoon, "squandered" the Frenchman, as the phrase is, over the T.Y.C. The Prince, over short courses, is undoubtedly the greatest phenomenon ever known, and it is, we understand, the opinion of Admiral Rous that he can give any two year old in England four stone and an easy beating. If the Admiral ever made this remark, he would now, probably, make an exception in favour of Ecossais, who would certainly prove too much for his half brother at much less than 56 lb.

The racing on Friday was not particularly important. Reine proved the truth of her Hunt Cup running by scoring a clever victory in the Ascot Plate, and Chestnut (four years, 7st. 7 lb.) was just too good for Laburnum (9st. 4 lb.) in the Second Class Wokingham Stakes, though we think the latter would certainly have been returned the winner had he not, as usual, refused to struggle at the finish. This is one of the most heartbreaking horses in training, as he constantly indulges his owner with hopes of victory which he never realises. The Alexandra Plate was a mere farce of a race. Only Vanderdecken came out to oppose Cremorne, and the pair trotted and cantered for two thirds of the distance, when the latter came away and won as he pleased by any number of lengths. Originally instituted in 1865 for the purpose of strengthening the Friday's programme, the Alexandra Plate was contested for a few years by good fields, but latterly it has exhibited symptoms of decay; and this is the second occasion on which it has resolved itself into a match, as only two horses started when Trocadero won the plate for Count Lagrange in 1870.

The first sale of the yearlings of the New Stud Company took place at Cobham on Saturday last, and we are pleased to be able to record a great success, the thirty-five youngsters submitted to competition having realised the very large total of £13,025 gs., or an average of about 385 gs. for each animal. Mr. Dangar, a wealthy Australian, will probably take out of the country a promising colt by Blair Athol out of Ellermire, bought cheaply enough at 460 gs., as well as a very nice filly out of Alestis (the dam of Devotion); and a colt, considered by Jennings and many good judges as the pick of the sale, by Blair Athol from Circe. The crack youngster was a colt by Blair Athol—Coimbra, an own brother to the two-year-old, belonging to Mr. Merry, who made a fairly creditable début last week in the New Stakes. This colt was considered so promising that 1000 gs. was at once offered for him, which, however, was immediately capped by Captain Machell with an offer of 2000 gs.; and, nobody thinking it worth while to oppose so determined a bidder, the yearling was knocked down to him at this figure, amidst a scene of no small excitement. No less than five Blair Athols were sold for 1000 gs. or upwards; and it is clear that the running of Prince Charlie, Ecossais, Struan, and others has induced, for the present, an extraordinary demand for the produce of this sire. Blair Athol was bought by the company last summer at the dispersion of the late Mr. Blenkiron's stud, and, though 12,500 gs. was an enormous sum to pay for him, we think that the outlay is sure to prove remunerative, as nearly all of his stock can run, and he gets a larger percentage of really first-class racehorses than any other horse we could name. Up to this time his produce, though very speedy, have proved deficient in stamina, which is rather singular, as Blair Athol himself was one of the best stayers ever known. The case, however, is not without parallel; and we can well remember the time when King Tom begat nothing but half-milers, and Kingston had the same character until he astonished the world with Teddington, Caractacus, and Queen Bertha. Kettledrum to this day has never produced a stayer, with the single, and perhaps somewhat doubtful, exception of Freeman. Blair Athol, therefore, is probably only biding his time, and one of these days he will present us with a son who shall unite the speed of Prince Charlie with the stamina of Cremorne. Perhaps he has already given us such a colt in Ecossais.

It has been arranged that the Lurgan open coursing meeting for the present year shall take place on Oct. 21, and following days. The draw for the Brownlow Cup will take place in the Townhall, Lurgan, on Monday, Oct. 20.

The Gazette contains the announcement of the promotion of Captain Sherard Osborn, C.B., to the rank of Rear-Admiral.

GRAND REVIEW of the IRONCLAD FLEET at SPITHEAD by the SHAH of PERSIA, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, the Lords of the Admiralty, &c., on MONDAY, JUNE 25, 1873.

LONDON, BRIGHTON, and SOUTH-COAST RAILWAY.—Return Tickets to Portsmouth, Havant, and the Isle of Wight from London or any station more than thirty miles distant from Portsmouth, issued on Friday, 20th, Saturday, 21st, Sunday, 22nd, or Monday, 23rd June, will be available for the Return Journey on any day up to Wednesday, June 26, inclusive.

IMPROVED TRAIN SERVICE to PORTSMOUTH and the ISLE OF WIGHT.

	A.M.	A.M.	A.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
Victoria (West End) dep.	6.50	9.50	11.40	2.45	3.58	4.55	6.50
Kensington " " " "	7.00	10.00	11.50	2.55	4.08	5.05	7.00
Clapham Junction " " "	7.10	10.10	12.00	3.05	4.18	5.15	7.10
London Br. (City) dep.	7.10	10.10	12.00	3.05	4.18	5.15	7.10
Portsmouth " " " "	9.25	12.25	2.35	5.40	6.53	7.50	9.57
Cowes " " " "	10.15	1.15	3.15	6.20	7.33	8.30	10.35
Ryde " " " "	10.35	1.35	3.35	6.40	7.53	8.50	10.55
Sandown " " " "	11.00	2.00	4.00	7.05	8.18	9.15	11.20
Shanklin " " " "	11.15	2.15	4.15	7.20	8.33	9.30	11.35
Ventnor " " " "	11.30	2.30	4.30	7.35	8.48	9.45	11.50

Coaches have commenced running for the season from Ventnor to Blackgang Chine, and through the Undercliff to Freshwater. Tourists' Tickets are issued to Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight by this route.

EXTRA TRAINS, at Ordinary Fares, will be run on SATURDAY and SUNDAY, JUNE 21 and 22. From Victoria, 2.55 p.m.; London Bridge, 3.0 p.m.

SPECIAL FAST TRAINS on MONDAY, JUNE 23 (1st, 2nd, and 3rd Class), for PORTSMOUTH direct, will leave London Bridge 6.45 a.m. and 7.0 a.m., and Victoria 6.35 a.m. and 6.50 a.m., calling at Clapham Junction. Returning after the Review as required by the Traffic; the last Train leaving at 7.50 p.m. Fares there and back, 2s., 1s. 6d., and 1s. 2d.

TICKETS and every information can be obtained at the West-End General Office, 28, Regent-circus, Waterloo-place. (By order), J. P. KERR, General Manager, London Bridge Terminus.

ROYAL ASYLUM of ST. ANNE'S SOCIETY SCHOOLS.
Patrons—Her Most Gracious Majesty the QUEEN and the Royal Family.
President—The Archbishop of Canterbury.
Lady President—The Duchess Dowager of Northumberland.
The Lord Bishop of Winchester, V.P., will preside at the ANNUAL MEETING for the Distribution of Prizes to the former pupils (boys) at the Asylum, on THURSDAY AFTERNOON, JUNE 26, 1873, at Three o'clock. Tickets of Admission can be obtained at the office. By order, R. H. EVANS, Secretary.
Office, 52, King William-street, E.C.

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EDINBURGH ..	20, St. Andrew-square.
GLASGOW ..	19, St. Vincent-place.
LIVERPOOL ..	5, Tithebarn-street.
MANCHESTER ..	52, Spring-gardens (corner of King-street).
MELBOURNE ..	105, Collins-street West.

The Thirty-Seventh Annual General Meeting of this Company was held, within their house in Aberdeen, on Friday, June 13, 1873, when, after receiving and adopting the Directors' Report, it was unanimously resolved to declare a Dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. free of income tax—making, with the amount already paid, a total distribution of 20 per cent. for the year 1872.

The following is an abstract of the Report submitted:—
FIRE DEPARTMENT.
The progress which the Directors have for so many years been able to report in this Department showed no sign of abatement during 1872, the Premiums amounting to £270,427 0s. 8d., against £236,458 6s. 4d. in 1871.

The losses for the year, it is still more satisfactory to note, were considerably below the average, and amounted to only £133,249 10s. 4d., or less than 50 per cent. of the Premiums received. (The ratio of Losses to Premiums upon the Company's whole business since its establishment now stands at 61.29 per cent.) The total expenses of management (including Agents' Commission and every other charge) remain about the same as in the previous year, the ratio being 27.63 per cent. against 27.3 per cent. in 1871. The result of the year's operations is, that the Reserve Fund of this Department has been increased from £167,949 17s. 7d. to £230,406 7s. 4d.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.
The number of Lives upon which new Assurances were granted during the year amounted to 466;
The aggregate sum thereby secured to £339,347; and
The annual premiums thereon to £10,209 8s. 4d.
The claims amounted to £67,356 12s. 11d. (of which £973 6s. 7d. was for Endowments), after payment of which, and all other outgoings, the funds of this department were increased by the sum of £75,557 7s. 4d.
The sum of £4801 0s. 6d. was received by the sale of Annuities.

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PHILIP CURRIE, Esq.
EDWARD HENRY GREEN, Esq.
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WILLIAM M. ROSS, Esq.
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FIRE DEPARTMENT.—E. H. MANNING, Manager.
LIFE DEPARTMENT.—JAS. VALENTINE, Assistant Actuary.
GENERAL MANAGER and ACTUARY.—A. P. FLETCHER.
Copies of the Report, with the whole Accounts of the Company for the year 1872, may be obtained from any of the Branch Offices or Agencies.

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